TRIANA,

Or a Threefold

ROMANZA

Of { *Mariana.* / *Paduana.* / *Sabina.* }

Omne tulit Punctum qui miſcuit Vtile dulci.

LONDON,

Printed for *John Stafford*, and are to be ſold at his Houſe, at the *George* at *Fleet-bridge*. 1654.

Fuller Dr T. Triana. 12°. 1654.
This is the first ed: of Triana.
the second ed: of 1664 has a
unique print by Faythorne.

Except the two Copies which
I possess I have never heard
of any other except an imperfect
one that belonged to Dr White
of Litchfield. the 2^d ed. has the
name of the author printed on Title Page.

TRIANA,

Or a Threefold

ROMANZA

Of { Mariana.
Paduana.
Sabina.

Copie tulle Paradiso [illegible]

LONDON,

Printed for John Stafford, and are to be sold at his House at the Grayes Inn Thes-bridge. 1654.

To the Reader.

IT is hard to say whether it is worst, to be Idle or ill imploy'd; whilst I have eschewed the former, I have fallen on the latter; and shall by the severer sort be censured for mispending my time.

Let such I pray heare my Plea, and I dare make my accusers my Judges herein, that is not lost time which aimes at a good end; Sauce is as lawfull as meat, recreation as Labour, it hath pleased me in composing it, I hope it may delight others in perusing it.

I present not a Translation out of the Spanish, or from the Italian Originall; this is the common Pander to mens fancy, hoping to vent them under that title with the more applause. These my play-labours never appeared before, and is an essay of wha

what hereafter may be a greater volume.

Things herein are composed in a generall proportion to truth, and we may justly affirme,

Vera si non scribimus, scribimus veri similia, *I will not be deposed for the exact variety of the gravest passages: in the greatest historian a Liberty hath ever been allowed to fancies of this nature, alwaies provided, that they confine themselves within the bounds of probability.*

Thus wishing every faithfull Lover Feliciano's *happinesse, every good wife* Facundo's *Love, every true servant, servant,* Gervia's *fortune, every Maiden-Lady,* Fidelio's *constant affection, every faithfull friend* Vejetto's *successe, every clownish foole,* Insuls *his mishap, and every cruell wanton,* Nicholayo's *deserved punishment: I leave thee to the perusall hereof, censure not so rigidly, lest you blast a budding Writer in the blossoming of his endeavours.*

TRIANA

MARIANA.

IN the City of *Valentia*, *Metropolis* of the *Kingdome* so named, which with many other Dominions are the tributary Brooks discharging themselves into the Ocean of the *Spanish Monarchy*, dwelt one *Don Durio* a Merchant of great repute. For as yet the envious sands had not (as at this day) obstructed the Haven in *Valentia*, but that it was the principall port in those parts.

This *Don Durio* had advanced an estate much by Parcimony, more by Rapine, being halfe a Jew by his *extraction*; and more then three quarters thereof by his *Conditions*, being

a notorious oppreſſor. But growne very aged, and carrying his *Eyes* in his *pockett*, *Teeth* in his *Sheath*, and *Feete* in his *Hands*, he began with remorſe to reflect on the former part of his Life with ſome thoughts of reſtitution, to ſuch whom he had moſt injured.

This his intention he communicated to one *Franciſco* a Frier, and his *Confeſſor*: *Franciſco* was glad to ſee ſuch a qualme of Religion come over his heart, and reſolved to improve it to the uttermoſt. Hee perſwades him that reſtitution was a thing difficult and almoſt impoſſible for one in his condition, ſo many were the particular perſons by him wronged: the ſhorteſt and ſureſt way was for him to conſigne his only Daughter *Mariana* to be a Nun in the Priory of St. *Brigett*, and to endow that Covent with all his Lands: which exemplary piece of his liberality, would not only with

the

the luſtre thereof out-ſhine all his former faults: but alſo be a direction to poſterity how to regulate their eſtates on the like occaſion. *Don Durio*, though flinty of himſelf, yet lately ſoftned with Age and ſickneſſe, entertaines the motion, not onely with contentment, but with delight, and will not be a day older before the ſame be effected.

But there was a materiall perſon, whoſe conſent herein muſt be cõſulted with, even *Mariana* his Daughter, who had not one ounce of *Nuns* fleſh about her, as whom nature had intended not as a dead ſtake in a hedge to ſtand ſingly in the place: but as a plant to fructifie for poſterity. Beſides, ſhe had aſſured her ſelf to one *Fidelio*, a Gentlemã of ſuch merit, that though his vertues ſtarted with great diſadvantage, clogg'd with the waite of a neceſſitous fortune: yet ſuch the ſtrength and ſwiftnes thereof, that he very ſpeedily came (not

being above the years of two and twenty) to the marke of a publique reputation; but theſe things were carried ſo cloſely between them, and all leakes of ſuperſtition were ſo cunningly made up, that neither friend nor foe, had gained the leaſt glimps of their intentions.

Don Durio, Franciſco being in his preſence, importunes his Daughter (a hard taske) to bury her beauty under a vaile, and become a *Erigittine*. What he propounded with a fatherly bluntneſſe, *Franciſco* ſharpens with the edge of his wit, heightning the happineſſe of a recluded Life to the Skie, and above it; A diſcourſe very unwelcome to *Marianaes* Eares, racketted between two dangers on either ſide. If ſhe ſurrender her ſelfe herein to her Fathers will, ſhe is undone, and what ſhe values above her ſelfe, *Fidelio* is ruined: If ſhe deny, ſhe expoſeth her ſelfe to the juſt cenſure of diſobedi-

ence

ence: yea it puts a light into the hand of her ſuſpitious Fathers therby to diſcover her intentions, that her affections being preingaged, obſtructed the acceptance of this Motion. No time is allowed her to adviſe, in a moment (almoſt) ſhe muſt conſult and conclude, and reſolved at laſt to comply with her Fathers deſires for the preſent, not deſpairing, but that courteous time, in the proceſſe thereof, would tender unto her ſome advantage, whereby hereafter ſhe might make a faire evaſion.

But her Father hurries her in her preſent attire, (as good enough for a mortified mind, without allowing her reſpit of of exchanging) unto the Covent. *Franciſco* leades the way, *Don Dario* followes, and *Mariana* comes laſt; her countenance was neither ſo ſad, as to betray any diſcontent, nor ſo blith and cheerefull as to proclaime any likeneſſe there-

in: but ſo reduced, and moderately compoſed, as of one that well underſtood both what ſhe was leaving off, and what ſhe was entring into. And if the falling of a few teares moiſtened her cheekes, it was excuſable in one now taking her farewell of her former friends: and her Father beheld the ſame as the Argument of good nature in her.

Ringing the Bell at the *Covent* Gate, the watchfull Porter takes the Alarum and preſently opens: for though it was ſomething difficult for ſtrangers to have exceſſe into the Covent, yet the preſence of Frier *Franciſco*, was as ſtrong as any *Petar*, to make the ſturdieſt gate in the Covent pliable to his admiſſion. Out comes the *Lady Abbeſſe*, who had now paſſed Sixty winters, and carried the repute of a grave and Sanctimonious Matron: A ſtrict diſciplinner ſhe was of the leaſt wantonneſſe of any committed to her charge, reputed

puted by moſt to her virtuous diſpoſitiõ, but aſcribed by others to her envy, driving away thoſe delights from others which formerly had flowne away from her ſelfe.

Franciſco with a ſhort ſpeech acquaints her with the cauſe of their comming. ſurrenders *Mariana* to be a Probationer in their houſe; whom the *Abbeſſe* welcommeth with the largeſt expreſſions of love to her, and thankefulneſſe to her Father, highly commending *Don Durio* his Devotion, that whereas many Parents bleſſed with a numerous iſſue grudge to beſtow the tythe thereof on a Monaſticall Life ſuch is his forward zeale as to part with all his ſtock, and ſtore, not repining to conferre his ſole daughter and heire to a religious retirement; Then taking their leaves each of other, they depart, leaving *Mariana* with the *Abbeſſe*.

Milleſcent a Nun of good eſteeme

and great credit, is assigned by the Abbesse to goe along with *Mariana*, and shew her all the roomes, walkes and rich untensills of the house; especially she is very carefull to reade unto her a large Inventory of all the reliques therein, with their severall miraculous operations. The points of St. *Rumballs* Breeches (among other things) were there shown, the touching whereof would make barren women fruitfull: and many other seeming toyes of soveraigne influence. Passing through by the Southeast corner of the Cloyster *Mariana* cast her eye on an arched vault, enquiring the use thereof, and whether the same did conduct; *Millisten* answered, that in due time her curiosity therein should be satisfied to her owne contentment, but as yet she was not capable of any intelligence therein, which was one of the mysteries of the house not communicated to novices at their first admission, but reserved for such, who after

after ſome convenient time of abode there, had given undoubted teſtimony of their fidelity to that Order. And here we leave *Mariana* having more muſick and leſſe mirth then ſhe had at home.

The newes hereof was no ſooner brought to *Fidelio*, but it moved a ſtrange impreſſion upon him. *Were I aſſured that the Reader hereof was ever found in love, and that his breſt was ever through warn'd with chaſt fires of a conſtãt miſtreſs, it would ſpare me ſome pains to character* Fidelio *his ſad condition. For then my worke is eaſily done, onely by appealing to the Readers experience, who out of a ſympathy is able to make more then a conjecture of* Fidelio's *ſad eſtate, daily languiſhing for the loſſe of his Love, as dead (whilſt living) unto him.*

His Penſive poſtures, ſad looks, ſilent ſighs, affected ſolitarineſs, ſequeſtring himſelf from his moſt familiar friends, was obſerved by *Ardalio*, by whom he was intirely beloved, *Arda-*

dalio using the boldneſſe becomming a friend, examines *Fidelio* of the cauſe of his ſuddaine change. *Fidelio* for a time fences himſelfe with his owne retiredneſſe, and fortifies his ſoule with reſolutions of ſecrecy. The other plants the Artillery of his importunity againſt him, by the force thereof *Fidelio* is beaten out of his hold, & won at laſt to unboſome his grievance to *Ardalio*, who had promiſed, that *Midnight* ſooner ſhould be found a *Tel-tale*, & *Truſt* it ſelfe become a *Traytor*, rather then he would diſcover any thing prejudiciall unto him. Imboldned wherewith, *Fidelio* confeſſeth that *Marianas* reſtraint in a Nunnery into which ſhe was lately thruſt, by her parents power (as he verily beleeved) againſt her own will, and without his knowledge.

Had ſhee been taken priſoner by the *Turke*, ſome hope would have been to procure her *Liberty*

berty by ranſome, had *Pirates* ſurpriſed her, mony might have purchaſed her freedome, whereas now no hope of enlargement, it being no leſſe then Sacriledge accounted by force or fraud to practice her delivery from that Religious ſlavery.

Be content (ſaith *Ardalio*) and I will make you maſter of a project, which without any danger ſhall bring your Miſtreſſe into your poſſeſſion; turne therfore all your Soule into eares & liſten to my diſcourſe, wch though ſeemingly tedious in the relating, the ſame will make your attention, not only a ſaver, but a gainer by the rich concluſion thereof.

Some twelve yeares ſince, when a Frier was buried in the Benedictine Covent all the Schooleboyes in Valentia (among whom I aſſure you I was none of the meaneſt) invited themſelves to bee pre-

present at the solemnity, now whilst others were crowded into the Chappell to see the performance of the Obsequies, I know not what conceit made me a separatist from the rest of my companions. And as I was walking in a Corner between the Conduit and the Hall, I happened into an old Roome which led me into a Vault lighted onely with one squint-eyed Window, going somewhat further therein, my heart began to faile me with the fresh remembrance of those Tales of Bugbears wherewith my Nurse had affrighted my infancy from ponds and places of danger; however taking heart I resolved to discover the issue of that winding Vault.

And

And here you muſt forgive me, if I have forgotten ſome circumſtances herein, my memory which never was very loyall may be pardoned for betraying ſome paſſages after twelve yeares paſt: let it ſuffice that I remember ſo much as will make you happy if wiſely proſecuted, this was the reſult of my adventure, that as our River Anas *is reported to run ſome miles under ground, and afterwards ſpring up againe. So I drowned under dry earth, (if you will allow the expreſſion) was boyled up againe in the Nnnnery of the Bridgitines, you will hardly beleeve with what amazement the Nunns beheld me, who had entred*

their

their Cloyſter that unuſuall way never as yet (as it ſeemes) traced with boyes feet, but by thoſe of more maturity, whoſe company might bee more acceptable unto them: They loaded me with kiſſes and ſweet meates, for beleeve mee (Fidelio) *how meane opinion ſoever you may now have of my handſomneſſe, if my picture then taken, and the report of my Mother may be beleeved, I was not unhandſome. In fine, they flattered and threatned me not to diſcover which way I came thither, which if once I made knowne, thouſand of Devills would torment. From which day to this it never came into my head; my memory*

having

having now made ſome amends for its former forgetfulneſſe by this ſeaſonable ſuggeſtion thereof unto mee, when it may befriend your occaſions. If therefore you can convey your ſelfe by this paſſage into the Nunnery, I leave the reſt to bee ſtewarded by your owne Ingenuity.

But which way ſaid (*Fidelio*) ſhall I contrive my undiſcovered comming thither, ſhew me but a way preſenting but halfe the face, yea but a quarter face of probability, and I ſhall kiſſe that, and thanke you for the ſame.

I will furniſh you with all requiſites for the Adventure: I have an uncle living at Lisborne *provinciall of the Benedictines in Spaine,*

Spain; his hand when a boy I have often counterfeited for harmlesse cheats levell with my age, so livelily, that I have perswaded him to confess it his own, and great the familiarity between my Uncle and Franciſco, *who here is the Benedictine Abbot. I will provide all things for you, and fit you with the habit of their Order, leaving the reſt ſtill to be improved by your own Art and Induſtry. For where a friend tenders one hand to draw you out of the Mire, if you aſſiſt not to make up the reſt by your own Endeavours, even lie there ſtill to your own ſhame and with no pity of mine.*

They

They depart, resolving next morrow to meet, when all necessaries should be provided. In the meane time, *Fidelio* goes to the Covent of the *Bridgittines*, and walkes under a Window thereof, the which (as he was informed and his intelligence therein not untrue) belonged to the Chamber of *Mariana*. She discovers him there, and presently rends out of her legend the first white leafe which had not blushed (as the rest) for the lies and impudencies which were written therein; which *Paper* she imployes for a *Letter*, and looking out of the window, casts the letter down unto him who stood ready beneath to receive the same, and surely had the *Letter* been but ballanc'd, with any competent waight put therein, it had not missed his hands for whom it was intended.

What a pity was it, that *Æolus* was never in love, or that the *Winds* are too boisterous, or to cold to be melted

ted *Affection.* Except any will ſay that a Gale of wind was ambitious to kiſs the letter of ſo fair a hand, and overacted its part therein.

Sure it is that a ſmall blaſt thereof blew this Letter over into the Garden of the *Abbeſſe*, where ſhee was viewing of her Bees. Her Ladyſhip betakes her ſelfe to her glaſs-eyes, and peruſeth the following contents thereof.

Fidelio,

HElp me with thy imaginations, and know me here more miſerable then I can expreſs, here is nothing leſſe then that which is pretended, a chaſt miſtriſs which in due time may be a chaſt wife, may ſtock a hundred Nuns with Virginity; work my delive-

rance

rance if thy affections be unfeigned, or I am undone

Mariana.

Short and ſweet ſaid the *Abbeſſe*, the leaſt *Toades* have the greateſt *Poiſon*, and then up ſhe flies winged with anger, (which otherwiſe could ſcarce crawle) to *Marianes* Chamber where ſhe ſo railes on her, that a Purgatory hereafter might have been ſpared for having one here.

And becauſe ſhe had defamed the whole Covent, the heavieſt pēnance muſt be enjoyned unto her, to be ſtript naked to the middle in the *Hall* at dinner time, where ſhe was onely to be feaſted with laſhes, each *Nun* inflicting one upon her, and then the *Abbeſſe* to conclude *ſans* number: as many as her own diſcretion was pleaſed to lay on her.

But *Mariana* partly with grief, and partly with fear, fell ſo terrible ſick that

that night that her life came into deſpair, the onely reaſon (as I take it) why her pennance was put off to another time: till ſhe might be the more able object of their cruelty. For the *Abbeſſe* reſolved, that what was deferred ſhould not be taken away, being ſo far from abating the principall, She intended *Mariana* ſhould pay it with intereſt, and give ſatisfaction for the forbearance of this Diſcipline, when in any tolerable ſtrength to undergo it.

By this time *Ardalio* had compleated *Fidelio* with all neceſſaries in the habit of a Frier, who thus accoutred, advanceth in his formality to the Covent, where he is preſently brought to *Franciſco*, to whom hee delivered this enſuing Letter.

Dear

Dear Brother,

I Send you here my ſelfe in my friend, who was he as well known to you as to me, his vertues would command your affections, if not admiration; Our Covent hath this laſt hundred years, (ſince the firſt foundation therof) been eſſaying and endeavouring to make up a compleat man, which now in ſome meaſure it had effected in the bearer hereof; when beholdenvious death repining at our happineſſe, had laboured to fruſtrate the ſame; ſo that this pearleſſe peece of devotion, was ſcarce beſtowed on us, when almoſt

moſt taken away from us by a violent ſickneſſe, whoſe abated fury terminated at laſt, in a long and languiſhing quartain ague, which his hollow eyes and thin cheekes do too plainly expreſſe; exchange of Aire is commended unto us, for the beſt if not onely Phyſick: let him want nothing I pray your houſe can afford, and burthen him with as few queſtions as may be, it being tedious to him to talk, and his infirmity hath much diſinabled his intellectualls, and know that your meritorious kindneſſe therein, ſhall not onely oblige me to a requitall, but put an engagement on all Lovers of vertue, to whom this our Brother Feſtucaes

worth

worth is or hereafter may be known.

Your loving Friend

PEDRO *di* RONCA.

Franciſco embraceth him with all dearneſſe, the viands of the houſe are ſet before him, whereof *Fidelio* took a moderate repaſt; all the Monks of the houſe ſeverally ſalute him, and demanded of him ſeverall particulars of their Covent at *Liſborn*, as of the Scituation, Indowment, Number, Names, and punctuall obſervances therein.

To all theſe *Fidelio* returned geuerall anſwers, under the coverts whereof he might the eaſier conceal his own ignorance; as for the indowment of the houſe, hee profeſsed himſelf a meere ſtranger thereunto, and that hee affected ignorance therein, as conceiving

ceiving it reſented too much of worldly imployment, wheras his deſire was, that better things ſhould engroſſe hisſoule. This excuſe was heard with admiration, increaſing the opinion they had preconceived of his holineſſe: when they ask him ſuch queſtions, to which he could returne no anſwer at all, he would fall into a ſeeming trance, darting his eyes, and moving his lips, as in pious ejaculations, as not liſtning to what was ſaid unto him, whilſt the others out of manerly devotion, let fall their queſtions, and would preſſe them no farther, as loath to interrupt his ſoule in more ſerious and ſacred employment; beſids *Franciſco* gave a ſtrict command that none ſhould diſturb him with needleſſe queſtions, but leave him to the full imployment of his own meditations.

Some ſix daies after, *Fidelio* obſerving the directions of *Ardalio* his friends

friend, finds out the foreſaid vault, and accordingly went forward therein, till at laſt he came to a great Iron Gate, which was ſhut and obſtructed the way: This Gate was either not ſet up, or not ſhut up, when *Ardalio* made his paſſage this way. *Fidelio* falls a muſing, finds all his hopes prove abortive, with no poſſibility of further proceeding, when looking ſeriouſly on the Gate, which was enlightned through a ſmall hole, preſenting but twilight at noon day, he diſcovered an inſcription thereon, which he read to himſelf, with a voice one degree above whiſpering.

Fair Portreſſe of this privy Gate,
If any Siſter want a Mate,
Lift up the Barre and let me in,
It ſhall be but a veniall ſin.

Inſtantly the Gate flew open, and *Fidelio* is left to wonder, what ſe-

cret Spell, and hidden Magick, were contained in those verses, that so immediatly they should procure his admittance. But presently the Riddle is unfolded, finding a *Nun* behind the dore, where she kept her constant attendance, and to whom these verses were the wonted watch-word to open the Gate: recollecting his Spirit, he accosted the Sister, desiring to be conducted to *Mariana*, whom he understood (for the fame thereof had gotten out of the Covent) was very sick, and he sent from Father *Francisco* to provide some Ghostly counsell for her, and what els her present condition should require.

He is carried unto her Chamber, who being at the present asleep, hee entertained himself in the next room by looking on a *Picture*. Herein Saint *Dennis* was set forth, beheaded by *Pagan Tyrants*, and afterwards carrying his head under his

arm

arm ſeven miles from *Paris* to Saint *Dennis*. *Fidelio* ſmiling thereat to himſelf, thought that Saint *Dennis* in that poſture had an excellent opportunity to pick his teeth.

Mariana is awaked, *Fidelio* called in, who claiming the priviledge of privacy, as proper for a Confeſſor, all avoid the room, then putting off his diſguiſe, he briefly telleth her what dangers hee had undergone for her deliverance, informeth her that next morning hee would be ready with horſes and ſervants, at ſuch a corner of the Garden, where without any danger, they had contrived a way for her eſcape. *Fidelio's* preſence is better then any Cordial!, *Mariana* recovereth her ſpirits, is apprehenſive of the motion, promiſeth to obſerve time and place, they are thrifty in their language, ſpeak much in little laviſh, no minuts in complements: but are perfectly inſtructed in each others deſignes.

Presently in comes the *Abbesse*: *Fidelio* (having first recovered his coole) proceeds in a set discourse of the praise of patience, commending it to *Mariana* as the most necessary vertue in her condition; and after some generall salutes to the *Abbesse*, recommendeth his *Patient* to her care, and takes his own opportunity to depart, returning to the Covent of the *Benedictines* as undiscovered as he came thence.

That night, befriended with the dark, under the mantle thereof, *Fidelio* gets out of the Covent, repairs to his friend *Ardalio*, reports all the particulars of his successe, triumphs in the hopes of his approaching happinesse, counts the time which we generally complain doth fly, a Cripple, that crawles, so long each minuit seems unto him, untill ten of the clock next morning should be accomplished.

Next day *Mariana* riseth from her bed,

bed, craves leave of the *Abbeſſe* to go into the Garden, which is granted her; So that *Milleſcent* a prime Nun were to attend her. *Milleſcent* adviſeth her to wrap her ſelfe warm for fear of a relapſe, for the Air (ſaith ſhe) is piercing, and your body weak.

Indeed (quoth *Mariana*) I am ſenſible of much ſtrength in a ſhort time, and believe my ſelfe able, to run a race with you, who ſhall firſt come to yonder Corner; done ſaid *Milleſcent*, and let the lagg that comes laſt to the place, ſay over her Beades for us both. *They ſtart together.*

Have you ever heard the Poets fiction of *Atlanta's* running, when only her covetouſneſſe to get the golden Ball made her loſe the race. Alas her ſwiftneſſe was nothing in compariſon of *Marianaes*; It ſeems that *Cupid*, who had ſhot the piles of his arrowes into her heart, had tied the

thers or wings thereof unto her feet.

The wall of the *Nunnery* was on the one ſide filled up with Earth, on the out-ſide there was a deſcent of ſome four yards; *Fidelio* ſtood ready to entertain her. *What will not fright and love do?* *Mariana* conſults not any danger, nor did ſhe carry a ſcale in her eye to meaſure the depth of the wall: but croſſing the Proverb, *ſhe leapes before ſhe looks*, *Fidelio* ſaveth her almoſt halfe the way of her journey by catching of her in his armes, and before the ſucceeding minut had ſupplanted its Predeceſſor, ſhe is mounted by his ſervant behind *Fidelio*, and all ſpeed they make to a Chappell, wch might ſerve for an *Hoſpitall*, for it was blind, and the Prieſt dumb, yet had tongue enough to tie that knot which none of them was able to undoe.

But tired *Milleſcent* with much pant-

panting had recovered the corner, & seeing *Marianaes* escape, cryed out, *She is gone, She is gone*; this gave an *Alarum to the Abbess*, who instantly conceived her in a sound; It is, said she, the just reward of her adventure, that contrary to my Counsell went abroad. Out comes the whole Regiment of *Nunnes* with hot waters and Cordialls, to tempt her soul, if not too far departed, to return to her body, they are soon sensible of their mistake, and behold her almost got out of sight, so that the longer they looked, the less they saw her, till distance at last made her vanish away. Many a *Nun* a *Spectator* hereof, wisht themselves an *Actor* upon the same termes, commending her adventure in their hearts, who condemned her most in their discourse.

Fidelio with *Mariana* his wife returned to a private house in *Lisborn* prepared for this purpose; but

oh the quick intelligence that *Friers* have, ſure their ſoules all ſcent, all Eyes and Ears, that diſcover things ſo ſoon, ſo far off. They were juſt ready to ſit down at Supper, onely expecting the comming of his dear friend *Ardalio*, when in comes a man or a Tiger (ſhall I ſay) Nature might ſeeme to intend him for the latter, ſuch his fierce aſpect and hairy face, the terribleneſſe whereof was increaſed with his affected antique attire, by his place he was the *Jaylor of the houſe of Inquiſition*, and preſently he ſhewed a caſt of his office; by ſeizing them both his Priſoners. Yet might they have had the happineſſe to have been ſent to the ſame Priſon, it would have afforded ſome mitigation of their miſery; this would not be granted, though *Mariana* with importunate tears requeſted it; but they were diſpoſed into ſeverall Jayles, where neither of them was ſenſible of their own con-

condition, being totally taken up with the mutuall bemoaning the one of the other

This is one commendable quality in the *Spaniards*, Priſoners are not long delayed to rot in the Jayle, where is life worſe then death it ſelf, but are brought to a ſpeedy tryall, either to be condemned or acquitted. Next day they both are brought before the *Judges*, and condemned ot die; He for *S*acriledge, for ſoliciting a Votary out of the houſe, ſhe for carrying away a golden Medall wherein was the Picture of Saint *Bridget*, which ſhe caſually borrowed, having no felonious intention, as meaning to reſtore it, but ſurpriſed on a ſuddain, had no leiſure to make reſtitution. All conceived that the rigor of rigors was extended unto them, & by *Franciſco* the *Fryer*, though not viſibly appearing.

Don Durio hearing that his Daughter was to be executed, his Paternal

affections retreated to his heart, and there made a *Stand*, projecting with himſelfe how to prevent this miſchief. And here I muſt trouble the Reader, to go back in reporting an accident that happened twenty years agoe.

It chanced that *Philip* the ſecond (alwaies wealthie and alwaies wanting) was forced on a ſuddaine to ſend forth a great Fleet againſt the *Turk*, he borrowed a conſiderable ſum of money of *Don Durio*, for the payment whereof *Don Durio* was a daily ſuppliant to the Court, as conſtant at the gate as the Porter, plying the King with importunate Petitions, all which ended in delaies, which *Don Durio* rightly expounded to be denialls. Once the Treaſurer told him, that it was honor enough for the greateſt *Monarch* in *Chriſtendom* to borrow money of him, though he never receive it again. *Don Durio* to make a vertue of neceſſi-

neceſſity turned his deſpair into a frollick, and being admitted by friends into the Kings preſence in a Winter morning, caſt into the fire his Obligations which were parcell-ed up in a pretty bundle, deſiring the King to heat his hands thereat. *His Majeſty* was highly pleaſed with the conceit, and the rather becauſe it was more then a conceit, ſaying, it was *the beſt Faggot he ever ſaw, and wiſhed the State of* Senua *would make him the like Boneſire, ſwearing by Saint* James *(his uſuall Oath) that if ever* Don Durio *had need of a Court-favour at a dead lift, he ſhould not faile in his expectation.*

The dead lift, or at leaſt the dying lift was now come, *Don Durio* poſts to the *Madrid*, where the *Spaniſh Court* was kept, and findeth the *King* hunting of a Stag. The old man attends the ſport for a time. The Stag wearied with long hunting took ſoyl, and ran into a great Pond

or

or *dwarff-Lake*, hee recruited his ſtrength as old *Æſon* did in the Bath of *Medea*, and came forth as fair and as freſh as when rouſed in the morning, then ſetting his Haunces againſt the Parke pale, (Reader if a *Forreſter* pardon my language if improper) hee dared the *Doggs* to ſet upon him whilſt the hounds ſtood diſputing with themſelves (for the Kings doggs we know can make ſyllogiſms) whether the honor or the danger were the greater to adventure on their Foe, & whilſt they ſtood declining the hazard one to the other, out ſteps a cowardly keeper, & with a brace of bullets killeth the Stag dead in the place: who could he have borrowed a tongue from the ſtanders by, firſt he would have curſed that *Frier* of *Mentz* for firſt finding out the helliſh invention of Gunpowder, and then hee would have bequeathed himſelfe to have been coffined in paſte, whilſt the

King

King and his *Courtiers* ſhould be merry at the ſolemnizing of his Funerall.

The ſport being ended, the *King* returned and retired to his Chamber; *Don Durio* makes his addreſſe to his *Majeſty*, who at the firſt had forgotten him, till his memory was quickned with the effectuall token of the Bonds he burnt; welcome *Woodmonger* ſaid the *King*, thy ſuite is granted in the asking of it, and preſently a large pardon was ſigned and ſealed, which with all poſſible ſpeed, he carried along with him to *Lisborn*.

But ſo ſhort the day, ſo long the way, ſo bad the weather, that he could not make ſuch ſpeed as he deſired, and his friends expected.

The day of execution being come, *Fidelio* is brought to act his part on deaths *Theater*. *Mariana*, though diſjoyned from him in Priſon to her great grief, was now to her greater

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grief conjoyned with him at the Scaffold. *Fidelio* begins with a long ſpeech, which ſeems no whit tedious to the Auditors, becauſe done out of a deſign to gain time, in expectation of a pardon, which all underſtood was procured, all Lovers there preſent could have wiſhed each vowell long in his ſpeech, the effect whereof was to adviſe young perſons to confine their affections within ſome probable compaſs of their deſerts, not to wander with their extravagant love above the proportion of their merits: he bemoaneth himſelf much, *Mariana* more, taking on himſelf the guilt of the whole Action, and proteſted that ſhe died Loves true Martyr.

Mariana ſeconded him in this ſad diſcourſe, the purport whereof was, to teach obedience to Children, that they ſhould take heed how they concealed their love from their Parents

rents, in whoſe meer diſpoſall they were, and not to conceive that Age ſuperannuated them, or gave them an acquittance from that debt to which nature engaged them.

A *Poſt* winds his horn, all hear it and welcome, conceiving what indeed it was, the preface to a pardon: *Don Durio* followes the Poſt all in a ſweat, it being almoſt a wonder that his dried corpes could contribute ſo much moiſture. The pardon is preſented to the *Supream Officer*, with much joy and acclamation of the beholders.

Who would think that *Heraclitus* could be ſo ſoon turned into *Democritus*? who could ſuppoſe that ſo great an Army of people could in an inſtant, Faces about, it was hard before to find one merry, now impoſſible to find one ſad, as if by ſympathy they had been condemned with *Fidelio*, and accordingly

dingly pardoned with him.

The pardon is read, it was large parchment, in character, but apprehended too narrow in expreſſion, as only for the life of *Mariana*, whoſe Father, *Don Durio*, neither deſired nor endeavoured the life of the other whom he perfectly hated, as conceiving his love a diſparagement.

Writers were in a ſad condition, if ſometimes they might not take upon truſt from their readers more then they are able to pay themſelves; how ſhort would he fall, who would undertake in language to expreſſe the generall ſadneſſe of the Company, but eſpecially of *Mariana* for this unexpected accident. The *Executioner* proceeds to his work, a handkercher being tyed about *Fidelio's* Face, as one better prepared to feel then ſee death, he is readily provided for the fatall ſtroke.

In

In vain did *Mariana* with much Rhetorick (grief making her eloquent) plead, that the pardons of *Princes* are not to be taken in restrictive ſences, that in all things which are doubtfull, men are rather to enlarge it with favour then contract it with cruelty, that though her pardon alone was expreſt, doubtleſſe both were intended, that man and wife were but one; the guilt but one committed by both, and appeales to the judges preſent, if any ſpark of mercy were alive in their breaſts (Judges alway for the greater ſolemnity being preſent at Executions) to improve the fame on ſo juſt, ſo conſcientious, ſo honorable an occaſion, but as ſoon might a Child have perſwaded the Tide at full Sea to retreat, when inraged alſo with the wind, as her requeſt find any entertainment.

Ardalio was preſent thereat, ſtanding cloſe to Father *Franciſco* the

the great Actor herein, who spurr'd on the *Judges* (whom charity otherwise believed inclined to mercy, to the greatest & speediest extremity) and he desired a private work with *Francisco*, what was whispered between them, was unknown, and mens Fancies variously commented on their discourse, but the truth was, he spake to this effect.

Sir, you have been the grand *Ingeneir* of this mans death, whose blood you have sought, being your selfguilty of greater offences. A word from your mouth may respit the execution, and reprieve the Prisoner; I protest reveng of my friends blood, if you do not quickly improve your utmost, three minutes is all the time I allow you to thinke or do after I have ended my speech; know you Sir a Vault and a Door between your Covent and the Nuns, contrary to Canons and Laws Ecclesiasticall and Civill; these

things

things ſhal be heightned againſt you with as much earneſtneſſe as my wit and wealth can improve it, intending to bury my eſtate in the proſecution of the death of my friend. Theſe things he uttered with that ſeriouſnes which proteſted no paſſion but a calme ſoul, and ſuch people are trueſt to their reſolutions.

Franciſco went to the prime Officer, and requeſted him (Fryers requeſts in ſuch caſes being commands) to put off the execution for one month, untill his Majeſties pleaſure therein was more perfectly known; for *Ardalio* had given him private information, that the intention of the King was larger then his expreſſion in the pardon, and the Officer complyeth with him in his deſire, and all the company were diſſolved, none being ſad at ſo ſtrange but unexpected an alteration.

All matters were huſht and ſtopped;

ted; *Ardalio* imbraced and feasted by *Francisco*, who bribed his tongue to silence, which the other as ingenuously professed & faithfully performed. The reprieve of *Fidelio* ended in a full pardon, & old *Don Durio* seeing it to be in vain to forbid that match which providence had made, was contented that his Daughter was injointred in a true affection, consented unto their Marriage. Both which lived long, and were blessed with an happy posterity.

FINIS.

TRIANA

And PADVANA.

IN the City of *Venice*, there flouriſhed a Marchant as large in eſtate, as narrow in heart, *Mellito Bondi* by name, of a Family more ancient then numerous, and yet more numerous then rich; untill *Mellito* gave the luſter thereunto with the vaſtneſſe of his eſtate. One daughter alone he had, *Paduana* (from the neighbouring place of her birth and breeding) courted by all the *Illuſtriſſimo's* and *Clariſſimo's* of that State, as well ſhe might, having the portion of a Princeſſe in expectation. Yet her wealth was the meaneſt thing about her, whoſe

whoſe vertues and beauty was ſuch, that fame commonly a Lier in the exceſſe, was here a lier in the defect, her large report falling ſhort of the Ladies due deſerts.

Paduana ſolicited to marriage denied all ſuiters, charging all upon the account of her ſtedfaſt reſolutions on virginity; whereas this was but a *blind*, more covertly to conceal her affections, and that exchange of hearts which had paſſed between her and *Feliciano*, a ſojourner in the houſe of her Father.

This *Feliciano* was a proper Gentleman, compleatly educated, whoſe enemies allowed this to be his worſt fault, that he had a prodigall to his Father, who had waſted the large eſtate of his Anceſtors: yet let not old *Andrea* (for ſo was his Father termed) be wholy condemned for an unthrift (the partiall cauſe of his ruine) ſeeing loſſes at Sea, and ill debters at land contributed

buted to his ſpeedier undoing; beſides our foreſaid *Bondi* if ſtrictly examined, could not denie his concurrence thereunto, who by uſurious contracts, and ſiniſter advantages ſpurred him on to deſtruction, who was running too faſt of himſelfe; hereupon in ſome commiſeration he kept *Feliciano* his ſonne, as a gentle-Almſ-man, exhibiting dyet and ſome ſlender accommodations unto him.

The beſt was, the ſcant meaſure of *Bondi* his allowance, was inlarged by his daughters bounty, maintaining him in a faſhionable *equipage*: Thus for a time we leave them to their embraces, ſo much the ſweeter becauſe the ſecreter, waiting the leaſure of every opportunity, and warily ſtealing the ſame.

It happened about this time, that the *Preſident* of *Dalmatia* languiſhed on a deſperate ſickneſſe, his death being daily expected: This

was

was an office of great honour and expence, which could not be discharged creditably without the annuall expending of so many duckets, which amounts to three thousand pounds sterling of our English money: for though the foresaid *President* had a pension from the State, and a certain *Intrado* from the Gallyes and Garrisons, with some considerable revenues from the demeanes annexed to the place, yet all his perquisits and emoluments audited, the foresaid summe was requisite to carry it forth with any reputation, except some sordid soule was careless of his credit, and would sacrifice the fame to publique obloquy.

Milito Bondi was designed by the *Duke and Senate of Venice* successor in this Presidentship of *Dalmatia*: Indeed in Seniority it belonged unto him, and as it was accounted an injury to baulk so good ground, and

passe

paſſe over a man of merit, ſhould the *State* decline his election; So on the other ſide it would have left an indeleble ſhame to *Mellito*, if ſhee ſhould have waved the acceptance thereof.

Mellito quakes for feare to be advanced downward to ſo chargeable a preferment, his covetouſneſſe is above his ambition, and he almoſt dies for feare to heare that the Preſident of *Dalmatia* is dying. The newes of the arriving of a wealthy Ship from *Caro*, or *Conſtantinople*, would be farre more acceptable unto him, then ſuch burthenſome honour.

Now hee had a confident, part Friend, part ſervant, *Gervatio* by name, whoſe ſecreſie hee had balkt, and whoſe tongue he had lockt up with many favours beſtowed upon him. To him he preſumes to impart his grievance in manner following.

Gervatio, I ranck my ſervants in a threefold Order, of Slaves, Servants and friends; of the former I have many fit for ſervile labour, no ingenious imployment: of the middle ſort, I want none, but theſe love mine rather then me: of friends ſervants thou art the chiefe, I make thy owne ingenuity my judge, whether my carriage unto thee hath not rather ſpoke mee a Father to a Child, rather then a Maſter to Servant. Thankefull natures (among whom I ſhall account you till diſcerning the contrary) will ſtudy to deſerve favours beſtowed upon them, which begetteth in me a confidence that I may not ōly ſafely truſt the with an important ſecret, but alſo crave thy advice

advice therein for my further direction.

Gervatio made a ſhort, but ſerious proteſt of his fidelity herein, profeſſing himſelfe highly advanced in this truſt committed unto him, withall much commending *Bondies* ability to adviſe himſelfe, bemoaning withall his owne inſufficiency, who could not harbour ſo preſumptuous a thought, as if the ſcant meaſure of his weake judgement could ſupply any thing wanting in the rich Treaſure of his Maſters experience: how ever he promiſed that his heart ſhould make recompence for his head, and the ſincerity of his endeavours make ſome amends for his other failings and infirmities.

From complements, I fall to the matter in hand, *Bondi* tells him his great deſire to decline the coſtly *Preſidentſhip of Dalmatia*, which by ſucceſſion when vacant, was certain to deſcend upon him, he voweth that

he accompted it ill husbandry to sell rich Lands therewith to buy empty Ayre & honorable titles which vanishwith the wearer thereof; whilst his lasting wealth might probably descend to his posterity, & desireth *Gervatio* to mind him of some faire contrivance which might not leave the blur of any suspition behind it, (much lesse come within the reach of probable detection) whereby he might wave that expensive place, though but for a time, untill some other should bee setled in the same.

Presently *Gervatio* his better *genius* prompted him, that if any person how rich soever, if totally deprived of any of his senses, was by the fundamentall Lawes of that State rendered uncapable of the foresaid *Presidentship*. On this undoubted foundation, being a most certaine and well known truth, he bottomed his designe, perswading *Bondi* to counterfeit himselfe stark blind, that

that this infirmity cunningly diſſembled and generally beleeved, would ſecure him out of the diſtance of the danger he feared, being not eligible to the place, while viſited with ſo great a defect.

The plot takes with *Bondi*, who puts it in preſent execution. On the Morrow an entertainment is made, ſome friends invited to celebrate the anniverſary of his birth-day, and *Bondi* proves himſelfe a perfect Miſer, by his ouer plentifull cheer: In the midſt of their mirth, he complains the Roome is dark, commands the windowes to be opened, which was done accordingly. *Bondi* perſeveres in his complaint, that he ſees no more then hee did before. (which in ſome ſence was not untrue) at laſt all meanes uſed to recover light unto him prove in vaine, So that *Juſtice* is not phancied more blind by the *Philoſophers*, nor *Cupid* feined more eyeleſſe by the *Poets*

then *Bondi* was then believed to be.

This accident produced different effects as men ſtood variouſly affected unto him, narrow the number of ſuch who truly loved him, and thoſe few did really pitty and bemoné him; more his foes who rejoyced thereat, and made uncharitable cõſtructiõs thereof, as if ſome ſecret wanton intemperance had deprived him of his ſight, none ſuſpected any fraud or colluſion therein. And to make all the ſurer *Bondi* confeſſed that this was a juſt puniſhment inflicted upon him for his pride and ambition, becauſe he ſo greedily had deſired the *Preſidentſhip of Dalmatia*. He acknowledged that he had been no better then a murtherer in his own heart, having often killed the old *Preſident of Dalmatia* in his wiſhes and deſire, the ſooner to pave the way to his owne preferment, and enoble his poſterity with addition of ſo honorable imployment.

Hither-

Hitherto, *Feliciano* and *Paduana*, had managed their affections with all ſecreſy ſuffering none to be privy thereunto; But henceforward being ignorant of her Fathers diſſimulation, they abſtaine not in his preſence to paſſe kiſſes and courteſies as confident that hee perceived nothing. Whereat the other was enraged above meaſure: ſhould his daughter being a fit match for a Prince, for Parts, Portion and Pedegree, be caſt away on the ſonne of a Bankrupt, all whoſe maintenance proceeded out of his owne purſe? hee reſolv'd rather to diſinherit *Paduana*, then endure this affront, though for the preſent in ſilence he digeſted the ſame.

The long languiſhing *Preſident of Dalmatia* puts an end of peoples expectations by his death, and made roome for one to exceed him in his office. The election leaves over *Bondi* by his blindneſſe unqualified for

that place, the concernement wherof required one who ſhould bee an *Argos*. both for body and minde, ſuch is the neede of his conſtant warineſſe and circumſpection. *Martino Carnatio* is by generall ſuffrages reputed for the place, legally choſen and ſolemnely ſetled therein; and conducted to *Spolato* by the Gallies of the State, where he began his reſidence, and we meet with no further mention of him.

Soone after the *Duke of Venice* comes to give *Bondi* a viſit, bringing along with him a Chirurgion, whoſe skill as it was diffuſed over all ſores, ſo his maſter-piece was in being an expert *oculiſt*. Indeed the eye is a ſmall volume, but many the leaves (I meane the tunicles) thereof, and much written therein, the eye alone being ſubject to more diſtempers and diſeaſes, then any other part of the Body, ſo many and ſo ſmall the contrivances therein, and no wonder

der if little Watches be quickly out of order.

This *Oculiſt* (being indeed one of more fame then skill, of more skill then honeſty) at the *Dukes* deſire made an accurate inſpection on *Bondi's* eyes, and pretended that he diſcovered in both of them a little ſpeck hindering the ſight thereof, which with a ſmall Inſtrument, might eaſily be cut out, with very little pain: and here he ſcattered a multitude of hard and long Latin words, which would ſerve for the titles of the Gally-pots of an Apothecaries ſhop, which much amuſed his hearers therewith: I ſpare the pains to relate them, becauſe queſtioning the readers skill in underſtanding thereof, the rather becauſe I queſtion the *Oculiſt* whether he underſtood himſelf in them.

Bondi was now put to it, fearing ſome violence ſhould be offered to his eyes, where a touch is a wound,

ſuch the tenderneſſe thereof, he thanks the *Chirurgeon* much, and the *Duke* more, for their care and kindneſſe unto him, but is reſolved patiently to bear the affliction laid upon him, which he confeſſes himſelf did juſtly deſerve for his pride and ambition, he hoped his ſoul ſhould be the better for the blindneſſe of his body, and in no caſe would conſent that any experiment ſhould be tryed on him for his recovery.

Here the *Duke* interpoſed his power and flat command, *Signior Bondi* ſaid he, you are not ſo in your owne full and free diſpoſe, but you may and muſt be over-ruled by others for your owne good; we take notice of that worth in you which your modeſty will not owne in your ſelfe, and therefore will not loſe the benefit of ſo uſefull a patriot; you are a ſelfe murtherer, if refuſing thoſe lawfull means whereby Art may befriend Nature, againſt your

your infirmity : As your friend therefore I desire you, as your Prince I command you, as both I enjoyne you without further dispute, to submitt your selfe to this Artist, not doubting but that his learned endeavours, will be crowned with welcome successe.

Wit works in extremity, now or never *Bondi* play thy prizes, with a composed countenance he returns.

My Lord, I am ready with all thankfulnesse to embrace your counsell, and much admire the extensivenesse of your goodnesse, and largnesse of your spirit, that amidst the multiplicity of your State-imployments, your ability is such, and your goodnesse so great, as you will reflect on so inconsiderable a thing as my selfe : But give me

leave

leave to acquaint your grace, I have lately made a vow to my particular Saint, whoſe aid I have implored (and whoſe name for ſome reaſons I crave leave as yet to conceal) and have received ſome aſſurance from him in a dream, that ſhortly I ſhall be bettered by his goodneſſe. I call it a Dream, but ſurely it was not ſuch, wherein Fancy commands in the abſence of reaſon; but certainly my Lord, ſuch was the impreſſion thereof in my ſoule, that it carrieth with it the preſage of ſomewhat more then ordinary; favour me then only to expect the iſſue thereof, and if my dream be but a dream, I ſhall yield my ſelfe wholly up to be ordered by your graces

pleaſure

pleaſure, and thankfully accept what courſe ſoever ſhall be preſcribed unto me. Hereat the Duke was contented, & aftar the exchange of ſome complements, the company departed.

Next day *Bondi* calls *Feliciano*, and ſends him to the ſhrine of Saint *Silveſter* in *Anchona*, deſiring that ſuch as attended thereon, would intruſt him with any parcell of that Saints reliques, (and if Beggers might be permitted to be chuſers) with his hair-girdle which he did wear next his skin, giving commiſſion to *Feliciano* to be bound to what proportion ſhould be required, or to procure ſecurity in the City for the reſtitution of the ſaid reliques in ten daies, and to ſend along with it ſome *Prieſt* eminent for his devotion, upon aſſured confidence, that the

the vertue of the relique meeting with his prayer, ſhould produce ſome ſtrange effects toward his recovery.

Feliciano is proud of the imployment, hoping hereby to ingratiate himſelfe, he makes all poſſible ſpeed he can to his journey, but firſt a Saint of his muſt be ſaluted, and the fair hand of *Paduana* kiſt, which done, he ſets forth with ſuch alacrity, as reſolved, that expedition and faithfulneſſe ſhould contend in him, which of them two ſhould ſhare the greateſt part, in performance of *Bondi's* commands.

The day after his departure, *Mounſier Inſuls* a French-man arrives at *Venice*, ſonne and heir to *Mounſier Opulent*, the rich Merchant of *Marſel'es*, he had purchaſed three French Counts out of their Lands, beſides a vaſt bank of money in *Venice*, and els-where: The old men ſome months ſince, by letters had con-

concluded the match, between the two ſole children and heires.

Inſuls then comes now, not ſo much to woe as to wed, Portion and Dowry are both agreed on, and nothing wanting (ſave that without which all was nothing) the affections of *Paduana*. This *Inſuls* was a Poeticall fool, an admirer of his owne rhimes, rather then verſes, being but one degree above *Ballads*.

Yet to give him his due, ſometimes he would ſtumble upon expreſſions which might have become a wiſer and learneder Man. And although herein he was generally condemned for a Theefe, that he had ſtolen them from others, (his memory being better, then his fancy) and than confidently vented them for for his owne; yet others were ſo charitable, that he wore not the Perriwigg of other mens witts, but was the true Author of his verſes, for he that ſhoots often at random,

dom, may ſometimes unawares hitt the marke, and it is impoſſible that in a million of blanks, one prize ſhould not happen at laſt. Beſides who knowes not, that the verieſt of fooles have not their wiſe intervalls; ſometimes hee would utter himſelfe in convenient language, and quick conceit.

To be briefe, it was a great queſtion whether *Paduana* more perfectly hated him, or more entirely loved *Feliciano*; but her Tyrannicall Father driving that affection which he ſhould draw, and forcing what he ſhould perſwade, vowed by Saint *Silveſter* his uſuall oath, that he would disinherit her of all his eſtate, and leave the ſame to *Georgio Bondi* his Nephew, in caſe ſhe made the leaſt refuſall herein.

In this diſtreſſe *Paduana* makes her addreſſes to *Cervatio* in this manner.

Cervatio,

Gervatio, *you cannot but be ſenſible of reciprocall love, between me and* Feliciano, *for though my Father be blind, you enjoy the benefit of your eyes, nor can we pretend to ſo much ſecreſy, but that one as your ſelfe conſtantly with us, will obſerve ſmoak in a ſigh, and ſparkles in an eye which have paſſed between us; my humb'e requeſt to you is (and do not Miſtreſſes command when they requeſt) that you would invent ſome way to free me from the torture of this Clowne, foole* Inſuls, *and promote my affections where they are beſtowed and deſerved.*

Who would worſhip the ſetting Sunne, when the riſing Sunne doth court him? my Fathers decaying

age

age carries in it a deſpair of long life, whilſt my tender years promiſe a longer continuance; build not therefore but on that foundation which in probability appears the firmeſt; however I would not diſoblige thee from my father, make your own ends upon him, gain of him what you can, & I will confirm it: and over and above I will aſſure thee (ſo farre as my condition is capable to give aſſurance) to gratifie your endeavours to a higher proportion, then you can expect. Is not the houſe in the ſuburbs of Padua, *where I was born, a pretty pile of building? do not forty acres of ground impartially embrace it on every ſide? Is not the Oile in* Lombardy *known to grow there?*

there? Know Gervatio, *that all these are thine to the reward of thy fidelity; besides I conceal something to my selfe, intending to surprize thee with that, which in my judgment will be considerable in it self, and worthy of thy acceptance.*

Gervatio hereby is made a perfect Convert, he will hold with *Bondi*, but run with *Paduana*, he will look towards the *Father*, but will row with the *Daughter*, and profest his future fidelity unto her with such oaths and imprecations, as commanded her belief.

It happened at this time, a scurrilous, scandalous Libell, made in verse, was cast in the *Piazza* in *Venice*, other copies scattered in Saint *Marks*, and other publick places of the Citty; herein the *Duke* and *Senate* were basely abused, and some lines

lines, ſome ſmall witt ſhewed in the cloſe thereof, (as who cannot be ingenious to abuſe) ſpies are ſet to apprehend the perſon, with promiſes of two hundred Ducketts for his ſervice.

Gervatio, whoſe brains now beat about nothing but *Paduana's* happineſſe, accoſteth *Mounſier Inſuls*, who ever was inquiſitive of newes, asking him what was the tydings of the day: Strange news, ſaith *Gervatio*, an admirable piece of Poetry (but a little ſalt and bitter) is found ſcattered before the *Dukes Palace*, and ſtrange it is, that he who had the witt to make it, had not the wiſdome to affix his name to it.

That is no ſtrange thing (*ſaith* Inſuls) *for generally the moſt witty are the moſt modeſt, how many hundred nameleſſe copies of mine fly about in* France, *and* Italy, *and*

and others perchance claime the credit thereof, it is a paſſage wherein I have taken ſpeciall contentment, to ſee the impudency and ignorance of thoſe, who will father the iſſues of another mans brain.

Gervatio returned, that ſome hundred Duckets were promiſed to the Author, and he believed that he ſhould be *Poet Laureat* for the State of *Venice*, and wiſhing that he any way might be inſtrumentall in diſcovering the compoſer thereof: *And* Mounſier Inſuls *give me leave to be plain with you, I have a great ſuſpicion (but to recall the word, for ſuſpicion is only for things that are bad, and therefore improper at preſent) I have a ſtrong ſurmiſe that you are the Author thereof. Inſuls* laughed with an affected guiltineſſe, and ſaid nothing.

And Sir, (returned the other,) I know you, and none else could do the same: First, I compare the stile and language is like that wherein last night you courted my Mistresse, alwaies full, but not swelling, sometimes humble, bnt not flat, the rhime good, but not affected, teaching it the true distance thereof, that it must be the vassall, not the Master of the Poet, it is neither Virgils *strain, nor* Ovids, *but both; it comes off with a spring in the close, and commonly the two last verses of the Stanza, containes the totall summe of the particulars going before; certainly a vast summe of money would be bestowed on him who was the composer thereof.*

What

What talkeſt thou to me of money (*replyed* Inſuls) *my Father hath the three beſt ſeats in all* Provence, Craſſus *and* Creſſus *were both of them beggers unto him, I only take up this vein of Poetry for my recreation, and to confute the common obſervation, that all Poets are Beggers. I am a rich Poet.*

After the exchange of ſome diſcourſe, *Inſuls* ſhewed himſelfe to brook his name, and barely confeſſed himſelf to be the Author of the *Poem*, adding withall, that he had made five-hundred better in his daies: But ſeeing no one drinks alike of *Helicon* at all times, a conſtant tenure cannot be expected in witts: I was ſaith he at the penning thereof, not aſcending but declining *Parnaſſus*, and good *Gervat o*

make

make not conjecture of my parts on ſuch diſadvantages, but that I am able to exceed it on the leaſt occaſion: I confeſſe, Muſtard is nothing worth unleſſe it bite; I put in little ſharpeneſſe to give it a hogo to the pallate of the Men of theſe times.

Out ſprings two inviſible witneſſe whom *Gervatio* had planted within the reach of their words) and preſently ſeize *Inſuls* condemned by his own witneſſe. Theſe Informers, the neceſſary evills in a State, were incouraged in *Venice* by the greateſt politicians, conforming themſelves to all companies, having a patent to be *knaves* that they might diſcover *fooles*; ſeeing no wiſe men, though diſſenting from the preſent power, will lie at ſo open a Guard, as to carry their hearts in their tongues.

Inſuls is preſently hurried to priſon; and it is ſtrange to ſee the ſuddaine alteration this accident made upon

upon him: hee who at beſt was but halfe a man, was now leſs conſiderable then a beaſt, ſenceleſs & ſtupid, ſcarſe able to write his condition to his Father, ſo that had not ſome Frenchmen by accident viſited him, hee had certainly died in priſon.

Mounſier Opulent hearing of his ſonnes reſtraint, poſts from *France* to *Venice*, the depth of whoſe judgement could onely fathom profit, he was *Sapiens quoad hoc*, wiſe onely in the point of wealth: So that by long living and great ſparing, hee had accumulated much wealth, but take him out of his own Element of bargaining, he was ſo ſimple, that hee ſeemed the true originall of his ſon, as his ſon the true tranſcript of his Father.

To *Venice* hee comes, and with large gifts buyes his ſonnes inlargement: the truth was, his ſonnes ſimplenes beſt befriended him, who upon examination appeared unca-

able to be author of the Libell, and in the judgement of all deserved rather to be whipt for a lier (assuming to himselfe what was none of her owne) then to have any severer punishment inflicted upon him.

Young *Insuls* now at liberty backt with his Fathers presence renewes his suite to *Paduana*; Joynture, and a good estate are the invincible arguments which *Mellito Bondi* cannot resist; he engageth so farre at the matter, that onely three dayes respit is allowed to his daughter, in which time she must be *Insuls* his wife, or else no heire to her Father.

In this juncture of time home comes *Felicitano*, bringing with him the Girdle of St *Silvester*, antick for the shape and fashion thereof, as having steele buckles, and a rowell at the end thereof; it was generally beleeved that this was used by *Silvester* in the way of disciplining himselfe, and Father *Adrian* exemplary

ry in that Covent for ſanctity was ſent along with the ſame, ſeeing ſo rich a treaſure was not to be truſted in any lay-hand

A ſolemne entertainment is made in *Mellito's* houſe, and moſt of the *Magnificoes* of the State invited thereunto; but this feaſt had beene uſhered with three foregoing Faſts kept in the family of *Bondi* and his allies for the better ſucceſſe, and more effectuall working of their intended deſigne. After dinner Father *Adrian* mumbles many prayers (it being well if hee underſtood them himſelfe, as confident that none elſe did in the roome) and then ceremoniouſly the Girdle is applied to *Mellito*, but eſpecially the rowell thereof (wherein moſt ſacredneſſe was conceived to conſiſt) ſeverall times rubbed upon his eyes to ſo good purpoſe, that within three howers he ſo recovered his ſight, as to diſcerne and diſtinguiſh the faces of all preſent.

Some of the beholders began to ſuſpect ſome fraud in the matter, only on this account, becauſe the miracle was not inſtantly done, but ſucceſſively and by degrees. Let Drugs, and Herbs, and Minerals, which have a naturall vertue placed in them, proceed ſoftly and ſlowly to effect cures; whereas miracles ride Poſt, and the ſame moment which begins, doth perfect extraordinary operations: this I ſay put jealouſie in the heads of ſome preſent, to doubt the reality of the cure, and ſuſpect ſome deceit in the matter.

But they being but few in themſelves, were quickly overpowred by the nu nber and gravity of thoſe on the contrary opinion; for ſome of them argued, that the rule is not univerſally true, that all miracles ſpring in a moment, ſeeing ſome of them have been of ſlower growth, and the ſame pace hath not alwaies been

been obſerved in miraculous motions; and ſeeing the effects conduced much to the honour of Saint *Silveſter*, every one was ſuſpected for an *Infidell*, that did not preſently believe: yea to doubt the truth thereof, was to diſcover a little Heretick in his boſome that owned the ſuſpicion. Preſently *Bells* and *Boneſires* proclaime the cure all over the City; perſons flocking from all places to behold this girdle, the making and faſhion whereof, being out of the rode of common Girdles, catcht and kept the fancies of fond people, ſome admiring at the matter of it, being they ſaid of a Seal-skine; others at the forme, as at the weight & greatneſs thereof, being almoſt as big as one could well lift; hence ſome inferred Saint *Silveſter* to be of a *Giant*-like proportion, above the ſtandard of other men; others collected the generall greatneſſe of men in former ages, complaining of the de-

cay of nature, and diminution of men in these daies; but the more wiser sort resolved it upon a point of religion, that the foresaid girdle was worn by way of pennance, not so much to strengthen and adorne, as to lead and mortifie the wearer thereof.

As for *Bondi* in a large oration, he expressed his thankfulnesse before the company to his titular St. whose speech is here too large to insert, only this by the way, to elaborate, not flowing from him freely on the present emergency, but wrought, studied, and premeditated, which again brought new fewell to their jealousie, which suspected some fraud, as if this had been composed of purpose, and conned by heart before hand, and so the scene of the designe solemnly laid; however their budding suspicion was quickly blasted, and beaten down with the generall congratulation

of

of all people, so that now his recovery was universally believed, so that this miracle gave a super-sedeas to all other discourses in *Italy* for a month, and commonly was the third course at all great Tables, whereon the persons present took their repast.

Next day was the Nuptials of *Insuls* and *Paduana* to be solemnized, had not the seasonable enterposing of *Gervatio* prevented the matter presently, by his appointment, in comes two *Confidents* of *Feliciano's*, (both disguised in the habits of Friers) and boldly presse into the Parlour, and chambers of *Bondi*, looking so scornfully on all accosting them, as if they carried written in their faces a Patent for their own presumption, and knew themselvs to be impowred with an authority above controule. *Bondi* no sooner recovered himselfe out of his amazement which seized him at first,

but that he resolutely demanded of them the cause of their comming, and intrusion at so unseasonable an houre (it being late at night) They seemed careless to satisfie his demands, as a thing beneath them, being imploid in matters of higher concernment; and proceed without any interruption, to draw up an *Inventory* of the severall goods and utensills in his house.

Imprimis, in double guilt plate 500. *ounces. Item, in white plate* 1200. *ounces. Item, in &c.*

Then command they him without delay, to surrender the keyes of his Chests and Coffers, which the other refused to doe, summoning *Gervatio*, *Feliciano*, and all his servants to his assistance, which presently repaired unto him; and though the two former were privy to the plot, yet they so cunningly concealed it in their carriage, that no *tel-Tale* smile, or *blab-look* of mirth, betrayed the least suspicion of

of their privity thereunto, but compoſed their faces, with reduced countenances, ſpeaking much anxiety and ſuſpence, to attend the iſſue and event of ſo ſtrange an accident. Then the elder *Frier* began, *diſmiſs your ſervants preſently, and let them attend in an outward room, it is a favour we have afforded out of the reſpect to your place, though not deſerved by your perſon, that hitherto we have been tender of your reputation (ſo farre as a crime of this nature was capable thereof) and would not willingly have you ſacrifice the ſmall remaines of your credit to ignominie and diſgrace; we honour the ſilver crowne of age on your head, though it deſerved to be placed on better Temples.* *Bondi* is ſurpriſed with horrour and palſie-ſtrook with fear, being guilty to himſelfe of deceit, cauſeth the room to be voided of all company, and meekly and calmly requeſteth them to impart unto him his offence, and their commiſſion.

The other proceedeth. *Crimes though the same in themselves, are not the same when committed by severall offenders, but they commence, and take degrees of hainousnesse from the circumstances of time, place, and person; a concurrence of all these have conspired to aggravate and inflame your guilt; you have a large and plentifull estate, and cannot pretend poverty to your selfe (that engine which forceth ingenious natures to disingenious actions) prompted you to so unworthy a practice: the* Duke *and* State *have reflected on you in a great proportion, so that no neglect or discontent received from them could spurre you forward to so dishonest a designe; Charity it selfe must turn just against you, and the best rhetorick so farre from defending, that it cannot excuse your offence. What, to counterfeit your selfe blind, and at the same time to give a lye both to Heaven, and Earth, abusing both in one act by an offence, that as former ages will not find an example, so future will scarce afford belief thereof.*

But

But how hard is it to commit one fault, and but one fault, as vertues are not single Stars, but constellations, so vices straggle not alone, but go in companies, and grow in clusters: This ground-platform of your dissembling, must have outward outworks, sconces, and redoubts, to flank, fortifie and defend the same: This mother lye how fruitfull hath it been in a numerous issue of Oaths, and perjuries, as if you intended to scale the Throne of justice, with a series of sin, and draw down revenge on your selfe: At last to close and conclude your villany, you have father'd the same on miraculous recovery, and have abused your titulary Saint, by pretending his reliques the immediate cause of your restored sight: but that Saint being rich enough in himselfe in reall miracles, disdaineth the addition of your sophisticated actions, and will not be dishonoured with false honour, which you hypocritically have fastned upon him; yet in detestation of your dissimulation, and to manifest how zealously he disavoweth all

falshood,

falſhood, and forgery, he hath been heard at ſeverall times in the night in his ſhrine with a ſhrill voice to make diſcovery of your falſhood; and now we expect to obtain from his Holineſſe, *and this* State, *a confiſcation of your goods, in order whereunto we are employed by our ſuperiours to take an exact liſt and account of your eſtate, both in Lands and moveables, till we ſhall be further informed how the ſame ſhall be diſpoſed of.*

Bondi looked as pale as aſhes, having ſcarſe life enough left to act his limbs with motion, his guilty conſcience was not at leiſure to enquire into the particulars, but took all for granted, and now expected nothing leſſe but loſſe of goods, and perpetuall impriſonment: For that night the *Friers* are contented to repoſe themſelves, and deferre the reſt of their work till the next morning.

Mean time *Bondi* and *Gervatio* paſſed a ſleepleſſe night, and it would ſwell a volume, to inventory

ry the particulars of their discourse.

Bondi sometimes is silent, and his tears drown his tongue, *Gervatio* desires to make his countenance to attend his Masters in all motions, first readeth and writeth in his face sorrow and silence alternatly, as directed by his patern: At last *Bondi* breaketh forth into the following expressions.

Listen faithfull Gervatio *to the Testament of thy dying Master, for I am resolved not to outlive the funerall of my owne credit, and estate; I behold my selfe only as a shaddow, stript out of all estate, whereof already I have made the forfeiture, yet it grieveth me not for my selfe, whose decayed age hath rendred me uncapable of much worldly pleasure; it is not considerable with a solvable man who hath it by him to pay a due debt, which will be required a month or two before the exact date wherein it is due: I behold long life as the playing out of a desperate game at Tables lost, at the first remove only, it*

grieveth

grieveth me for my daughter Paduana, *whose youth might intitle her to much happinesse, and her vertues deserve no lesse; poor heart, she must now become the scorn and shame of the City, and as an over-grown flower, wither on the stalk whereon she grew, for want of a hand to gather a Husband to marry her.*

Gravatio rejoyned, I am utterly unable to give Physick to your other maladies, but possibly may apply a remedy to this, if servants may take the boldnesse to teach their Masters, and to reprove them too, wherein they conceive them faulty: refuse not an humble reprehension from him, whose good intention and heart may make out what is wanting in his tongue and expression; I conceive all this misfortune justly befallen you, for undervaluing the merits of Feliciano, *and crossing the affections of your daughter; true it is, his wealth is not considerable, but his extraction, education, abilities, and accomplishment, doth recompence all his other defects; besides, what loving Parent*

would

would stop the affections of his daughter in the full speed and carreere thereof; except she had bestowed them so unworthily, as to intaile shame and disgrace on his Family: Now Sir make a vertue of necessity, and before the matter be publickly known of the confiscation of your fortunes; comply with her affections, and please him in seeing the marriage between them consummated: you may also by my hands derive unto your daughter so much of your invisible estate, as is contrivable in a small room, and may escape the hands of these Harpies: It will be safe in all tempests to have a secure place for anchorage, nor can you have any assurance of a better, then with your dear and dutifull daughter. For suppose (and would it were but a supposition, for the case is too plain and pittifull) that all your estate become a prey to their hands, who never let go what once they lay hold upon: Yet I presume your wealth will be a ransome for your life and liberty, and that you may be permitted freely to breath the Venetian aire, the

short

short remainder of your daies.

Bondi consented to all, as no wonder, for grief had so mollified his heart, it was capable of any impression which bare with it the least probability of comfort, and as a sinking man, made an Oke of an Osier, catcht at any thing to support him from present sinking: The Priest was sent for that night, and though the hower was uncanonicall for marriage(long after sun set) yet the sun of golden *chicqueenes* will make the other sun rise at pleasure; and *Feliciano* with a largesse to the *Priest*, bought off all irregularity.

Then *Gervatio* took the boldnesse to make another motion. *Sir, I humbly conceive that as yet you are not legally convicted, and that there is still inherent in you a power to make over your estate, for the world as yet takes notice of these clandestine transactions, you are innocent till such time as you are made to be otherwise by publick conviction; I confesse my selfe*

as

as un-skild in any ſcience as ignorant in Law; but Law being founded upon reaſon, me thinks I ſpeak proportionable thereunto, beſide, my former Maſter was a chief Advcoate, and if my memory, or miſapplication thereof faile not, ſuch fragments of his counſell ſtill remain in my braines, which he often gave to guilty perſons in this caſe, before their publick condemnation.

Gervatio's counſell paſſed for Oracles with *Bondi*, who in this extaſie of feare ſuſpected all his owne actions, & relied on any mãs advice, who would favour him ſo farre as to beſtow it on one ſo deſpicable and forlorne as he conceived himſelf to be: A *Notary* is ſent for to make a deed of gift of his eſtate as faſt and firme as his skill would give him leave, and now the ſame is ſetled on *Feliciano*.

Feliciano next morning repaires to the two pretended *Friers*, bringing *Bondi* along with him, and deſires to know

know, whether or no it were poſſible to ſopite and ſuppreſſe the infamy of this Action, and to buy off the ſlander with a round ſumme of money inſtantly depoſited. The *Friers* confeſſed the fault great; but becauſe their Covent had been formerly beholding to the bounty of *Bondi*, and becauſe they beheld the fact as of humane frailty and infirmity, to which all men are ſubject, it was hitherto their deſire and deſigne to conceale the ſame, ſo that their *Prior and ſubprior* excepted, none beſide themſelves were privy thereunto, who gave their attendance when the foreſaid voice made the diſcovery: they would therefore endeavour their utmoſt, and nothing ſhould be wanting in them to ſtop the further proceedings thereof, and doubted not but their paines would take the deſired effect, which accordingly in few daies was performed.

A Banquet is made, to which many of

of the *Venetian Magnificoes* were invited, but *Mounſier Opulent* and *Mounſier Inſuls* his ſonne, becauſe ſtrangers, were by the courteſie of *Italy* preferred to have a prime place among them. There leave we them feaſting themſelves with ſuch variety of dainties, that the appetite of many ſtood long time neuter, not knowing where to fix it ſelfe, courted with equality of variety.

As for *Paduana*, it is pitty to diſturbe her any more with our tedious diſcourſe, leaving her in the imbraces of her deare and vertuous *Feliciano*, whoſe name as it hath in it ſome tincture of happineſſe, ſo took it not its true effect till this time, who now was poſſeſſed of a large and rich eſtate. And *Bondi*, who formerly ſtarved in wealth through the narrowneſſe of his heart, fed better a *Boarder* then a *houskeeper*, having a ſon and daughter to provide plentifully for him, what his covetouſneſſe denied

nied to himſelfe, who formerly poſſeſt, but now began to enjoy his eſtate. Let *Inſuls* then returne into *France* and court the *Madams* there, whilſt *Paduana* rejoyceth in her choyce, and is ſo farre from meaſuring her promiſes to *Gervatio* with a reſtrictive hand, that ſhe out-did his expectations.

FINIS.

TRIANA AND SABINA.

IN the City of *Barcellona* in *Spaine*, lived a civill Lawyer of great repute, with a name, fitting his profeſſion, *Don Facundo Oſorio*, whoſe Office was paralell to a City Recorder in *England*. He had a wife whom he highly affected, and well might ſhe have merited the ſame, had the Jewell anſwered the Gasket, and her conditions bore proportion to the reſt of her corporall perfections; but there being ſome diſparity in their ages, (earth rather then heaven making the marriage between them for worldly reſpects) her *green* youth an-

anſwered not his gray haires with a ſuitable return of affection.

The truth was, ſhe was rather cunning then chaſt, and the ſame was diſcovered by the friends of her husband, whereof ſome took the boldneſſe to advertiſe him, that hereafter he might order her with a ſtricter hand. But I know not by what fate it commeth to paſſe, that oftentimes their eares and eyes who have leaſt cauſe are open to jealouſie, whilſt thoſe are ſhut thereunto who have juſt cauſe to entertaine it: His friends reap nothing but frowns for their faithfull counſell; *Facundo* will not believe his wife was otherwiſe then ſhe ſhould be, meaſuring her honeſty by his owne: yet ſome ſcore this his good opinion rather on his policy then charity, knowing what he would not acknowledg, leſt it ſhould be a diſparagement to his reputation: he ſaw, but was pleaſed to winke at his wifes miſcarri-

carriages; and becauſe he made the match againſt the advice of his friends, of his owne wilfull inclination, he would maintain the ground-work, and owne no error therein, leſt thereby he ſhould bring his own diſcretion into queſtion.

One principall friend *Vejeto*, had his houſe looking into the garden of *Don Nicholayo*, a great Lord of that City, who bare unto him no good-will, becauſe his window hindred his privacy, and was able to tell tales of ſuch paſſages which he would have tranſacted in darkneſſe, without any witneſſe: He informes *Facundo* that he had ſeen ſome geſtures more bold then civill between the Lord and his wife, but *Facundo* ſtill perſiſts in his infidelity, and either believes his wife to be honeſt, or elſe acteth the belief thereof ſo lively, that none could perceive in him, the leaſt ſuſpicion of her loyalty.

Sabina,

Sabina, Facundo's wife, falls now seemingly sick, and personateth a dying woman to the life; her old Nurse who conveyed intelligence between her and the Lord, had instructed her for her behaviour in a design; strange it is how she dissembled herein: so that had *Esculapius* himselfe beheld her (provided he neither felt her pulse, nor consulted with her urine) he might have mistook this his patient to be sick; indeed her husband plies her with Physitians and Physick, all to no purpose, her malady rather increasing, and the fire of her distemper growing the hotter for those cooling jewlips which were tendred unto her.

Don Nicholayo repaires unto her to give her a visit, many good counsels he lavisheth upon her in a long and tedious discourse, and the more tedious because her husband was in the presence; and they two not alone

lone by themſelves; but at laſt he recommendeth unto her a noted *Mountebank*, who had commenced Doctor in the mouthes of the vulgar, and had gained to himſelfe much eſteem, for ſeverall palliated cures performed by him; avowing, that if ſhe ever expected health, that muſt be the happy hand to reach it unto her.

This *Quackſalver* had reaped the credit of many learned mens labours, and leapt into eſteem by the advantage of their endeavours; for when by their learned receipts, ſome able Phyſicians in *Barcelona* had brought their patients to the point of amendement, and reduced their diſeaſes to tearms of eaſie compoſition, this fellow would interpoſe, and inſinuating himſelfe into the ſick mens acquaintance, would preſcribe unto them ſome of his owne medicines, more remarkable for their hard and ſtrange names, then any

other vertue therein: thus carried he away the credit of many cures, and was cried up by the credulous people for eminency in his art; and although the *Spaniards* generally are admirers of themselves, and sleighters of strangers, yet this *Mountebank* being an Italian by nation, had gained among them a great reputation, beholding therein, not so much to his owne learning, as the others ignorance.

Seignior Giovanni was his name, who is presently sent for; he comes, views his patient, and after some short discourse, affirmes her disease mortall, except one herb could be procured for her, which grew but in one place of *Italy*, and must be ceremoniously gathered by his & her hand, which bare the truest or deepest affection to the sick body.

Don Facundo her husband desires the *Mountebank* to enlarge himselfe, concerning the name and nature of

the

the foreſaid herb, proteſting he would expend the halfe of his Eſtate for his wifes whole recovery.

The other putting on the vizard of a ſtarcht countenance by pretended gravity, to procure the greater reſpect to himſelfe, and credit to his words, proceedeth as followeth.

Many men are infected with this ſingular error, that they will believe no vertue in drugs, further then they themſelves are able to render the reaſon thereof: whereas nature is rich in many ſecret qualities, which produce occult effects, the herb Lunaria *may be an inſtance, which is the greateſt picklock in the world, for let it be gathered on Midſummer eve, juſt at one of the clock, by one looking ſouth-eaſtward, and ſome other*

eſſentiall circumſtances lockt up in the breaſts of artiſts, it will make any Iron bolt to fly open. The herb Stellaria *commeth not ſhort thereof in vertue, as uſefull for thoſe diſeaſes which proceed from hott and dry cauſes; this groweth but in one part of* Italy, *ſome leagues from* Lucca, *and I can give infallible directions for the finding thereof: If therefore the Gentlewoman (feigning himſelfe ignorant that ſhe had a husband) had any confiding friend, which will follow my ſignature, in finding and gathering the ſame (right juſt at this inſtant of the year) this, and this alone will reſtore her to her former health, and I will pawne my credit on the ſame.*

Know

Know by the way, that this *Mountebank* was ſecretly bribed by *Don Nicolayo*, by this deſign to put her husband to run on one of theſe two rocks, either to be cenſured for want of true affection to his wife, if denying to doe any thing in order to her recovery, or els with great hazard to undertake a long and tedious voyage by Sea and Land, to ſeek for a new nothing, whilſt his wife all the while intended to proſtitute her ſelfe to the amorous imbraces of this *Lord*, who had made a mine in her heart, and had ſupplanted her husband in her affections.

Facundo, that he might be exemplary to all husbands, and that her kindred who were many and rich, might the more favourably reflect upon him, from whom he had a fair expectancy of a further fortune, willingly undertakes the voyage, deſiring to be furniſhed with perfect inſtructions from *Giovanni*, for the

finding of the herb, who delivers him a parchment becharactered with barbarous figures (Nets first to raise, and then to catch the fancy of fooles) and some other informations, which should be as so many signs and tokens, whereby he should make the hue and cry to attach and apprehend that guilty herb: which having so much worth and vertue in it selfe, would rather peevishly wither in a private cave, then spend it selfe for the publick good.

Facundo was some miles forward on his journey, when *Vejeto* his former friend privately posted after him, and perswaded him to return, for he had urged such unanswerable arguments, and infallible demonstrations drawn from what he himselfe had seen out of his own window, that at last he prevailed on the belief of *Facundo*, that all was not faire between his wife and *Mitolayo*; indeed when many scattered

circum-

circumstances were carefully put together, and seriously perused, there needed no *Oedipus* to read this riddle, which did interpret it selfe; that *Facundo* must be sent a Pilgrimage into *Italy*, to the shrine of an unknown herb (the man in the Moon having eaten *Stellaria* long before) that so in the vacancy of his Bed, the other might be made the incumbent thereof.

At last *Vejeto* adviseth *Facundo* to returne home in a disguise, and pretend himselfe to be a Brother of his, long since employed in the Low-Country warres, and now at last loaden with wounds and wants, returned to bequeath his aged body to his native Country. *Facundo* consents, hoping by the well management of this project, either to prevent, or els to discover his wifes unfaithfulnesse.

Now whilst *Vejeto* is accommodating his friend *Facundo*, with all

neceſſaries (the badges of an old Souldier) all eſſentialls thereunto could not be ſo conveniently procured, but that *Infido, Vejeto's* ſervant was employed in compleating his proviſions: a crafty fellow, who could ſteal light from a ſmal cranny, and light a candle at a little ſpark, knowing how thriftily to improve a *ſmall diſcovery* to the *greatest advantage*. *Don Nicholayo* paid a yearly penſion to this *Infido*, to furniſh him with intelligence againſt his Maſter, who now revealed all the deſign unto him, for which he received a conſiderable reward, and *Sabina* is throughly inſtructed to behave her ſelfe in the proſecution of the matter.

Facundo comes to his owne houſe, metamorphoſed to a *Reformado*, his clothes having ſo mãy rents in them, as preſumed to cover more wounds under them; a ſword by his ſide which had contracted ruſt, ſince the laſt

laſt truce; knocking at the door, his wife ſends forth a lamentable ſhreek, to evidence the continuance of her ſickneſſe not diſſembled, and *Facundo* (a man of more eloquence then valour) begins to quake, and condemns his own return; but now he was engaged ſo farre, paſt hope of retreating, that he muſt either march forward with confidence, or return with ſhame: being entered into the houſe, where he acquaints the ſervant that he was *Strenuo* the Brother of *Facundo*, and is conducted by his wifes command to her Bed-ſide.

I underſtand (ſaid ſhe) by my Maid, that you are my Brother Strenuo, *whom fame long ſince had reported dead, but we will pardon her that good lie which is better then a truth: I am hartily ſorry at your brothers abſence,*

and more, that my indiſpoſition is the cauſe thereof; never was poor woman more rich in the affections of a loving husband, though hitherto I have lived his wife, I ſhall hereafter demean my ſelfe as his ſervant, to deſerve ſome part of his pains in my behalfe: no dangers at Land, no tempeſts at Sea, have deterred him from undertaking a long journey into Italy, *thence to fetch neceſſaries for my recovery; but aſſure your ſelfe.* and here ſhe gave ſo great a groan, as brake off the intireneſſe of her diſcourſe, till after the taking of a Cordiall, ſhee began again.

Pardon good brother my unmannerlineſſe in my abrupt diſcourſe,

course, ſickneſſe carrieth with it its owne diſpenſatory for ſuch incivilities, I have almoſt forgotten what I ſaid laſt, but ſhall never forget the laſting love of my husband unto me, nor have I any better way to expreſſe my affection in his abſence, then by uſing you with all the reſpect my preſent condition can afford: you are too noble to meaſure your welcome by your entertainment, and know full well ſervants will not be found, where the Miſtreſſe is ſick; if they faile of my deſire, their duty, or your deſerts, in their attendance on you, it is in your power either to pardon or puniſh them, to whoſe ſole diſpoſall I commit the family, and command the keyes of all the

roomes to be tendred unto you; and now indeed Sir, the more I look on you, the more I like you, the more I love you: your mother never wronged your father I dare boldly affirm, so like you are in stature and complexion unto my husband, that were it not for the difference of your habit, I should believe you to be the same.

Alas Siſter (ſaid he) I am two years older then your husband by age, ten years by infirmity: read the difference between a gown-man and a ſword-man, your husband ſat wrapt in his furrs in his ſtudy, I expoſed to wind and weather in the field, he hath heard the braules at the barre, I have born the brunts in the fight; how often lay I perdue

in

in the three yeares ſiege of Oſtend? *how many ounces of blood loſt I at the fight at* Newport? *On my faith I am not able to count them: no wonder then if my face be pinkt, where my Brothers is plain, and if mine be furrowed with age, where his lyeth ſmooth and whole: howſoever I confeſs there were formerly great reſemblances in our features, the ruins whereof are not ſo wholly defaced, but that ſome ſtill remain.*

Night came on, his entertainment was harty, his chamber fully furniſhed with nightly accommodations, and nothing out of order therein ſave himſelfe deſperately penſive at his returne, accurſes *Vejeto* with cauſeleſſe ſuſpicion, and condemnes his owne credulity, he railes in his thoughts at the colour of yellow, which

which never was admitted into the Rain-bow, as too earthly and baſe a dye, and verily believes, men create cauſleſſe fears to themſelves, undeſerved by their wives; nor can he ſleep being troubled with his own unworthineſſe, to wrong ſo chaſt, ſo ſpotleſſe, ſo vertuous a wife, with his undeſerved ſuſpicion.

Next day *Don Nicholayo*, comes on a civill viſit to *Sabina*, brings with him a *Spaniſh Colonell*, who had long been an officer in the low-countrey wars, and ſometimes under-Governour of *Dunkirk* therein; he hearing of *Don Sirenuo's* coming out of the country, deſires to converſe with him, requeſting him to give the character of the preſent ſtate of the *Infanta's* Court at *Bruxels*: I deſire alſo ſaith the Collonell, to rub over and renew my old *Dutch* language, whereof I have made no uſe theſe laſt ſeven years, and am afraid I have partly forgotten it, and there-

upon

upon he enters upon a large *Dutch* diſcourſe, though *Facundo* was ſo farre from anſwering, that he underſtood not one word thereof.

Facundo anſwered in his own tongue. Don Olanzo *(for that I underſtand is your name) you muſt excuſe me for making any return in the* Dutch *tongue, whereof I will give you this particular account: When firſt I entered into thoſe warrs, I made a ſolemn vow with my ſelfe never to learn or ſpeak a word of that language, for I conceive it a degrading of my tongue to bow to their low expreſſions, and I admire that any* Spaniard *will offer to diſhonour himſelf by condeſcending thereunto; Conquerors ought to impoſe a language*

on

on a countrey and not to receive it thence: the valiant Romans never learnt the Gaules *tongue, or the punick language, this consideration hardned me in my resolution, that my tongue should be dumb in* Dutch, *a tongue wherein there is such confluence of consonants, so long, so hard, and so harsh, that it seemeth to me rather made for conjuring then converse, and fitter for Devills then men to discourse therein.*

Don Olanzo civilly declined more *Dutch*, and proceeded in his owne tongue to sift *Facundo*, desiring him to proceed in the present character of the country.

For Ostend *saith* Facundo, *the*

the only matter of moment, the siege still continueth, we have built three halfe Moons, and a Redoubt, between the windmill and the Key, but the trench from Saint Dominicks *to the counter-gate is not yet perfected; the Englisſh out of the town exerciſeth us with daily ſallies, and behave themſelves very valiantly, the worſt can be ſaid of them they are our enemies: Meat beginneth to faile them much, and Munition, as we are credibly informed by the fugitives which daily repair to us out of the Town; the Count of* Aremberg *is daily expected with a recruit of two thouſand foot, the* Pioneeres *out of* Luckland *are daily expected, and then have at a new mine for*

the

the Caſtle, when all our forces are compleated, we ſhall put it to a deſperate aſſault.

Don Olanzo not contented with theſe general heads, wherewith a mã might furniſh himſelfe out of the weekly news-bookes, began to preſs him to the particular deſcription of ſome places in *Brabant*, and *Flanders*. Now though *Facundo* was well book-learned, ſo farre as Mapps could inſtruct him, yet was it impoſſible that they could inform him in all particulars of places and buildings: *Facundo* begins to faulter, the other proſecuted him with the cruelty of a prevailing coward, and at length breaking into ſome Choller and paſſion, caught hold of his beard, which having no better title to his face then glue could afford it, preſently fell off, and diſcovered him to be what he was.

Sabina

Sabina all this while lay in her bed liſtening to their diſcourſe, which ſometimes ſhe diſturbs with her groans and ſighs, but now her husbands deceit being laid open, *Facundo* loaden with grief and guiltineſſe, falleth down on his knees, & craves pardon of his wife.

Strange it is to ſee how poor ſpirits deſcend beneath themſelves? but upon his ſubmiſſion and acknowledgment of his fault, a pardon is ſigned and ſealed unto him, upon condition he ſhould reaſſume his journey, which next day with all poſſible ſpeed he undertook, and we leave him making what ſpeed he might to the place for which he was bound.

The next day *Sabina* falleth truly and really ſick, it is ill jeſting with edg-tooles, that which we play with in ſport, may wound us in earneſt: *Don Nicholayo* repaires unto her, with full intent to enjoy his pleaſure, and that

that nothing but his owne moderation ſhould ſet bounds thereunto, when he meets with an unexpected repulſe, *Sabina* complaining of the intolerable torture, which diſpoſed her rather for a Coffin then amarous embraces.

I confeſſe, ſaith Don Nicholayo, *were I not privy unto this diſſembling, yea the prime procurer and contriver thereof, I ſhould my ſelfe verily beleeve thee really ſick: O how farre your ſex tran ſcend ours in diſſimulation? we do it ſo dully, ſo improperly, that we are lyable to diſcovery, you exceed your ſelves in what you pleaſe.*

But Sir, returnes Sabina, *miſtake me not (I cannot ſay by the faith*

faith of a loyall wife, having to my ſhame and grief, forfeited that title but bywhatever can be true and dear unto me, I vow and proteſt my ſelfe ſo ſick, that nature ſcarce affordeth me ability to expreſſe my owne ſickneſſe.

You will alwaies be a woman, ſaith Nicholayo, *who generally over-do or under-do what they undertake, hardly hitting on a mean, whoſe ſoules are either empty or over-flow; it is high time now to put off your vizard, and be what you are*: And with that he offered a familiar violence unto her, as ſuppoſing ſhe expected ſome acceptable force, to bee ſeemingly preſſed to what ſhe deſired.

Con-

Content your ſelfe ſaid Sabina, or my ſhreeches ſhall give an Alarum to the Family: Know Sir, I never loved you ſo much, as now I loath your looks, and deteſt the ſight of you, too much to my ſhame and grief hath formerly paſſed between us, but now I am reſolved not to proceed in that vitious courſe, but aſmuch as peniteney can make a harlot honeſt, to unſhaine my ſoul from my former offences; my time is ſhort, depart the room, and prevent my ſending you away.

Don Nicholayo ſtandeth amazed, who could expect that the wind could blow at ſuch a point of the compaſſe? a cold wind indeed to nip the heat of his luſt; yet he ſeeth

no remedie but to comply with t
preſent occaſion, & goes home wi
a ſoule divided between griefe, a
ger and wonder, though the lat
may ſeeme to claime the great
ſhare in him at ſo ſtrange and un
pected an accident. *Sabina* preſen
diſpatcheth a Servant to overt
her husband, requeſting him by all
Loves to returne with all poſſible
ſpeede, for ſhe had ſome important
ſecrets to unboſome to him, nor
could quietly depart this world be-
fore the imparting thereof unto
him.

Facundo feares ſome fraud in the
matter, refuſeth to returne: Indeed
the ſervant accoſted him with his
Meſſage in that very minut where-
in he was taking Ship; the wind
ſerving faire, and moſt of his goods
ſhipt already. At laſt the ſervant
gave ſuch aſſurance of his Miſtreſ-
ſes ſickneſſe, and ſo impotunately
preſſed him with thoſe arguments

bor-

borrowed from her, that *Facundo* returnes that night home; the roome is voided, when *Sabina* begins with tears in her eyes, moistening her words as she uttered them.

What tearm shall I call you by? husband I am ashamed to stile you, the mention whereof woundeth my own heart with the memory of my unworthinesse; friend is too familiar a title; Lord and Master too terrible to me, a false deceitfull servant; stile your selfe Sir what you please, I am your wretched vassal, and want words to expresse the foulnesse of my offence against you: I am ashamed to speak what I blushed not to do, who have lived in a course of inconstancy for many years with Don Nicho-

Nicholayo: *and with my diſſembling have put you to much trouble and paines Pardon is too great for me to aſk, but not for you to give. I confeſſe they that once have bankrupt their owne credit, can give no ſecurity for the future, that they will be reſponſible to ſuch as truſt them; however Sir know, I place more hope of ſpeeding in in my requeſt, in your goodneſſe then the Equity of my Petition. If life be lent me, which in my owne apprehenſion (and every one is beſt ſenſible of their own condition) is utterly unlikely, I ſhall utterly deſerve ſome part of your kindneſſe; Sir, can you not ſee through the chinkes of my broken body, my very heart inditing my*

words assure your self--- and there she fainted. Servants were called in, and much adoe with *Aqua vitæ* they courted and wooed her soul not to depart her body, which was so sullen that it would hardly be perswaded to stay, though at last prevailed upon

Although the Passages betweene *Facundo* and *Sabina*, were transacted with all possible secrecy; yet could they not be so privately carried, but that some in the house overhearing it, it crept through the *Family*, and went thorough the City of *Barcellona*, and at last through the whole Province of *Catalonia*: And now *Vejeto* is found a true friend, and begins to flourish, being formerly so depress't by the greatnesse of *Nicholayo*, that he took no comfort in himself

ſelf, and had abandoned his City houſe, and retired into the Country; but now he returnes to *Barcellona* again, falls a building and repairing his houſe, to outface his neighbour *Nicholayo*, making the ſame both larger beneath with Vaults, and higher above with Magnificent ſuperſtructures.

Don Nicholayo inraged in his mind with the diſcovery which *Sabina* had made, and ſeeing himſelfe ſlighted in his reputation: and fearing leſt the King of *Spain* (the Court having gotten intelligence thereof) ſhould diſſeize him of his *Governors* place of *Barcellona*, which his Anceſtors had for three deſcents poſſeſſed, almoſt to make the honour hereditary) reſolves on a deſigne, which preſent paſſion prompted unto him, and thus he effected it. *Facundo* was late at night, drawing up ſome conveyances for Land (which the City exchanged with

the Crown in the Town houſe) and the imployment was certain to ingroſſe him untill the next morning, which was the laſt day of the terme, aſſigned for the compleating thereof: All *Sabinas* ſervants were by her Nurſe (that *Pandoras* to her former wantonneſſe, and ſtill an active inſtrument for *Don Nicholayo*) ſent upon ſeverall errands to places of ſome diſtance, and ſhe alone left to attend her Miſtreſs. In ſprings *Nicholayo* with two robuſtuous ſervants, and with violence carries away *Sabina* muffled in carpets (threatning her with preſent death, at the leaſt reſiſtance or noiſe) to the houſe of *Nicholayo*: yet had he now no deſign of luſt upon her, whoſe revenge had baniſhed his wantonneſs; And bringing her into his Hall about midnight, a ſtone there is taken up and ſhe tumbled down into a Vault which I know not whether to call a *Dungeon* or a *Charnell-houſe* (many

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innocents having formerly been dispatched in the same place) *Nicholayo* conceiving that either she would be killed with the fall, or else starved to death in the place.

Now there was in *Barcellona* an Abbot of a Church, *Jago Domingo* preferred to that place by *Nicholayo*; rather by the others favour then his deserts; for guilt had made *Patron* and *Chaplain* mutually great together; they being both often complicated in the same act of baseneſſe, wherein they served each the turn of the other; they were nailed together with necessary secresie: so that what friendship did act in others, fear acted in them, to contribute their reciprocall assistance in all designes, seeing the lender to day was the borrower to morrow; These two plot together, and lay the scene of the ensuing project. At *Matten*-service when their Covent was singing together in the Ab-

bots Church, ſuddenly their harmony was diſturbed by an obſtreperous voice which ſeemed to proceed from a wall above the *Quire*: the voice ſpake horror and griefe, and pain, ſhreeking out ſhrill, and then the noiſe of ratling of chaines, and the chinking of Irons were alternately heard. Which indeed was nothing elſe but an inſtructed *Novice* placed there by the *Abbot* in a concealed concavity to play his part, according to his received directions. The Fryers for fear ſhorten their ſervice. and betake themſelves to their Cells in amazement, as utterly ignorant of the fraud: The *Abbot* his *Novice* and *Don Nicholayo* being onely privy thereunto.

Next day, the Fryers meeting at *Mattens*, the ſame noiſe was heard again, but lowder then before, with a claſhing and gnaſhing, ſpeaking a mixture of pain and indignation; the Fryers hardly held out their ſervice,

vice, wherein wonder ſo ſpoil'd their devotion, that as at other times the lay People knew not what they ſaid; ſo now for fear they ſcarce, underſtood themſelves.

The next day was a publique Feſtivall, wherein all the Gentry of *Barcellona* met there (ſave *Facundo* who went not out of his houſe, being tranſported with griefe and amazement; what ſhould be become of his inviſible wife,) the ſpirit proceeding as formerly in ſhriekes; an *Exorciſt* was provided, who by the vertue of holy water and other trinkets, took upon him to catechiſe and examine the ſpirit what he was, conjuring it by the power of his ſpells to anſwer the truth, and all the truth at its own perill, if concealing any part thereof.

I am ſorry (ſaid the voice in the wall) *the ſoule of* Sabina,

juſtly tormented in Purgatory, as for my many faults, ſo chiefly for raiſing a damnable and notorious lye on Don Nicholayo, *as if he had converſed diſhoneſtly with me. I had been hurried to a worſe place, as having nothing to plead in my mine own behalfe; but that I alledged that this ſcandall was never raiſed by my own invention, but put into my mouth by* Vejetto, *and he the Parent, ſhee onely the Nurſe thereof. And here I am condemned to intollerable torment without al poſſibility of releaſe, untill firſt ſome ſignall puniſhment be laid on* Vejetto; *it being the method of this Court, that the acceſſary cannot be releaſed, until the principall firſt be puniſhed. I am alſo*

enjoyned

enjoined to make publique confession of my fault, and to request Don Nicholayo *freely to forgive me, without which my enlargement cannot be procured. And therefore I humbly request this Covent for sanctity most highly prized, to join with me in my Petition; that that honorable and worthy Lord would be pleased freely to remit my fault herein; I am also to desire you to intreat my husband* Facundo *that he would be pleased to confer on this Covent his Vineyard, lying on the East side of the City between the gate and the River* Riodulce, *that so by the dayly intercession of their suffrages, I may be freed from my torture.*

The *Exorciſt* preſt this ſhee Spirit to more particulars, as to know whether her husband *Facundo* did not concurre with *Vejetto* to advance the defamation.

The Spirit anſwered, that never woman was happier in a better husband, and that ſhe would not adde to her fault and paines to belie him, he was utterly ignorant thereof, and had ever retained a true opinion of her faithfulneſſe, had not *Vejettoes* malice rooted it out, with conſtant and cauſeleſs ſuggeſtions.

The *Exorciſt* proceeded to demand what was become of her body, ſeeing the report had filled the City that it was no where to be found, and a ſuſpition was raiſed, that her husband or her ſervants were guilty of conveying it away, after they had offer'd ſome violence to her perſon.

Let me not (ſaid ſhe) *wilfully heap puniſhments on my ſelf, I muſt acquit my husband as altogether innocent, nor can I charge my ſervants* (*all whoſe prayers I humbly deſire for the aſſoiling of my ſoul*) *for the leaſt wrong offered unto me; the truth is, an evill ſpirit violently tooke me away, both ſoul and body, that my puniſhment might be exemplary and unuſuall, as my fault was above the proportion of common offenders.*

The *Exorciſt* demanded of her, whether any other beſides *Vejetto* had with him joined in that bad adviſe?

To which ſhe returned that the

time

time allotted for her imprisoned liberty was now expired, being assigned but three hours for the begging of the votes of three severall daies of mankind to help her in her extremity; that now she must return as Prisoner, carrying fetters about her to the place of her restraint, never more to appear or be heard more in this world: and with that giving a hideous screek, and ratling her fetters, she took a sad farewell of the place, leaving all that heard it to admiration.

It is strange to conceive how the female sex of *Barcellona* were affected hereat; all conclude that *Facundo* was bound in honour and conscience, to satisfie her request. And some

ſome of her kindred brought Abbot *Jago Domingo* unto his houſe, to move him in conformity to his wives deſire, to ſettle the *Vineyard* on their Covent as a reward of their meritorious prayers for his wives enlargement.

Long had the *Abbot* caſt a covetous eye upon this *Vineyard* as a little Paradice; for the pleaſure and ſcituation thereof; it might for the diſtance from *Barcellona* be termed the City in the Country, or the Country in the City. It lay on the ſide of a *Hill* which knew it own diſtance to aſcend above the *level*, yet was not overproud to aſpire to a barren heighth. It beheld the riſing Sun which is apprehended the moſt cordiall, when the Virgin beams thereof, uninfected with the vapours of the Earth, firſt enters on our hemiſpheare. A wood was in the middle thereof, whereon *Facundo* had beſtowed much coſt, making many

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Labyrinths and artificiall *mazes*: An *Aviary* alſo hee made therein ſtocking it with Birds from all Countries; So that ſome thought (abating onely the *Phœnix*) that the whole kind of Birds, if decayed, might have been recruited hence. A Rivolet, called *Riodulca*, ſlided through the midſt thereof; and ſeemed ſo pleaſed with the ſame, that loath to depart from ſo delicious a place, it purpoſely lengthned its own journey, by fetching many needleſſe *flexures*, *bendings*, and *windings* therein, as if it intended to ſhow that water could be more wanton then the wood under which it was paſſed; A banqueting houſe alſo was made in the middle thereof, with a *Fountain* and *Statues* of *Marble*; where *ſtones* were taught to ſpeak by water-works brought by a device into them.

True it is, many queſtioned the diſcretion of *Facundo* in expending ſo much coſt on that which ſeverer folke

folke accounted but a chargeable toy, paying many *pieces of eight* for every pint of *wine* that grew therin; others excuſed him, that being childleſſe, and having a plentifull eſtate, this was not onely harmleſſe, but a uſefull evacuation of his wealth; many poor people being uſed in the making, as alſo in the keeping of this *Vineyard*. But that which moſt pleaded for his expenſiveneſſe herein, and juſtly indeered him to the place, and the place to him, was, that it had been in the name of the *Oſorio's* three hundred years and upwards; and he had an Evidence in his houſe not exceeding a ſpan of Parchment in length, and three inches in breadth (ſo conciſe was Antiquity in conveying of lands) wherein *John King of Caſtile* beſtowed this Land on *Andrea Oſorio* for defending the high Tower in *Barcellona* once againſt the *French*, and twice againſt the *Moores*. Pardon

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cundo therefore if hee loved this place, or was found thereon, seeing doting on it, (the premises considered) was excusable; desiring to trasmit this Land to his *Brothers* Son whom he intended his heir.

Oh! what a brave sweet place would this make for *Abot Jago*, his Covent did ever micebite bad cheese, or were ever *Fryers* such fools as to affect base or barren ground: they will be assured of profit or pleasure, or both, whersoever they fix themselves. The *Abbot* is earnestly set on this place, and will either be possessed thereof, or els the soul of *Facundo*'s wife should be left tormented in the place where it was.

Her *Kindred* assault *Facundo* with much importunity to estate this Land on the Covent, which he utterly refused to do; not denying to disburse a competent sum of money: but pardon him if he will not part with his inheritance; But this or nothing

thing elſe will pleaſe *Iago*, ſo that they parted in ſome diſcontent; yet *Sabinaes* friends deſpair not, but in proceſſe of time to mould him to the *Abbots* deſire.

Meane time it would make any honeſt heart to grieve, though nothing related unto him, either in Kindred or Country, to ſee the harſh uſage of *Vejeto* how hee was hurried to the Jaile in moſt ignominious manner: ſcarce any in the City ſo young or ſo old, but would adventure to behold ſo vitious, ſo wicked a ſlanderer (for ſo he was believed to be) brought to puniſhment, though his impriſonment was conceived but a preface and preamble to a greater penalty (if eſcaping with death) which would be impoſed upon him; *Vejeto* made all the beholders to wonder, who did read in his face ſo much ſpirit and liveline ſſe, as if he triumphed in his ſufferings, and rather pitied others then him-

himself in this his condition, yea, his eyes and cheeks had as well mocks as smiles in them; which made the beholders to conceive, that besides his own innocence he had some further security, not onely to acquit himself, but that his Enemies should come off with shame & disgrace, wch made the Jaylor to demean himself unto him with the better respect.

Within three daies the *Visitor Generall* of the Order was to come to the Covent, and there in all pomp and solemnity to hear the whole Narration of the matter.

Now let us look a little backward, to acquaint you with the true cause of *Vejeto* his mirth in these troubles, who indeed had sufficient ground therof. We formerly told how *Vejeto* after his return out of the Country, began to beautifie and enlarge his his house; In sinking a Cellar, he stood by the workmen, partly to encourage them with his presence, part-

partly to behold the effects of their discovery, the place being concavous, the ruines of some great structure, formerly levell with the ground, though now sunk some yards beneath the same. But the generall report was that it had been a *Castle* in the time of *Julius Cæsar*, when *Barcellona* was a *Roman Colonie*, and priviledged with municipall immunities. *Vejeto* had a great fancy in *Roman Coines*, and would give any thing to such as could produce him any variety herein; yet his fancy was not above his judgement, but hee was very criticall therein, and had an exact and true eye to discover between true and counterfeits, *Casts*, and Originalls; But oh for a *Galba*, whose short raigne made his Coines the greatest rarity; and *Vejeto* had a *set* of Coines with a continuall succession of all the *Roman Emperors*, *Galba* onely excepted. The workmen find two or thre Coines of *Antoni-*

nus

nus, the forerunners as *Vejeto* hoped and expected of more to enſue; but theſe poor ſoules beheld them as *Æſops Cock* did the pearl, not knowing how to valew them; when *Vejeto* conceiving theſe the *Vancurriers* of an Army, and the earneſt of a greater payment; though truly not ſo much out of covetouſneſſe as curioſity, diſmiſſed them that night, the night indeed diſmiſſing them (it being late enough to leave work) and enjoining them to return next morning.

All his ſervants being aſleep, he alone with his eldeſt Son *Speano*, turn *Pioneers* to dig ſomewhat deep, and to lift the rubbiſh therin. It happens that pierced a hollow place (& hollowneſſe being a great friend to the conveying of a ſound) they hear a ſtrang noiſe, too big for a Child, too ſmall for a man; this noiſe was ſeconded with ſome light, but ſo doubtfull and glimmering, that it con-

conquered darkneſſe but one degree, *Veje.o* with his ſon enter the Vault, (what ſhould innocence be afraid of? The Father was aſhamed to betray fear in the preſence of his Son, as having more experience, the Sonne ſcorned to bewray fear in the preſence of his Father, having his youthfull blood and ſpirit to ſupport him; together they both ſo order the matter, that they went into the Vault, putting out their candle which led them, and reſolved in darkneſſe and ſilence to expect the Event of the matter.

Down ſomthing tumbled, and preſently all light vaniſhed, and they for a time, ſet ſtill to concoct with themſelves, the rawneſſe of ſo ſtrange an accident.

Preſently they hear a groan, ſuch as ſpeak the Soul, neither friend nor foe to the Body, but ſuch a diſtance between both, as if willing to depart. *Vejeto* enjoines his Son as young-

younger and abler to adventure to bring forth whatever it was, and up it is carried (not knowing as yet how to ſtile it, *Him*, or *Her*.) On the lighting of a Candle this bulk appears a woman, but much maimed, her right arme and left legge being broken.

What difference is there between the ſame Body in health, and in ſickneſſe, between the ſame cloathed and naked, when ornaments of Art are uſed unto it, or when it is left to the dreſſing of nature? *Vejeto* knowes no more hereof then *Woman*, and never remembers that hee had ſeen the face before; yet they omit not what art could do, to reſtore her to life, which ſucceeded according to their deſire, ſhe is conveyed to a Bed, and no accommodations are wanting which might tend to the ſpeeding of her recovery. At laſt he knoweth her for *Sabina*, before ſhee knew her ſelfe; wonder not at her Ig-

Ignorance, who had paſs'd through ſo many worlds, it being a greater wonder that ſhe was alive, then that ſhe did not know where ſhe was or what was become of her ſelfe, no Phyſick nor ſurgery is wanting to reſtore her to her former health.

True it is, *Vejeto* would not make uſe of any out of his own dores, for the better concealing of the matter, but his own wife *Oliva*, being excellent above her ſex at ſuch performances, indeed ſhee had never read *Hippocrates*, or *Galen*, in *Greek*; yet was ſhe one who by kitchen Phyſick did many and cheap cures to poor people, taking onely their thanks, (and that onely if they were willingly pleaſed to give it for the reward) from Phyſick ſhee proceeded to ſurgery, & was no leſſe ſucceſſeful therein, this made many to hate her, who were of that profeſſion; whilſt ſhe cared the leſſe for their hatred, as over-ballanced with the love and

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reſpect with others, but the poor eſpecially did bear unto her.

Sabina is privately concealed here for ſome daies, whilſt *Vejeto* as we have formerly mentioned was carried to Priſon, where *Oliva* daily viſited him, and it was the generall expectation of the people, that forfeiture of his eſtate was all the mercy juſtice could afford him.

And now *Abbot Iago* is buſie in preparing entertainment for *Padre Antonio, Biſhop of Lerma*, and Viſitor Generall of his order, but eſpecially of this Covent, in *Barcellona*, which three hundred years ſince was founded by a Biſhop of *Lerma*, leaving to his Succeſſors the hereditary power of inſpection over the ſame; to adde, alter, tranſlate Orders and perſons herein, as adviſed by their own diſcretion. *Padre Antonio* was generally hated by the Friers for his ſeverity and auſterity of life, being over rigorous in the obſervation

tion of the conformity thereof, hee would not abate them any point, but confined them to the height of observances: onely this preserved his reputation with Religious men, that he used others no worse then himself, *practizing* in his own person what he *prescribed* in others, leaving an example of abstinence to all the Country.

No wonder if the Trewants shake when the Schoolmaster cometh among them: *Abbot Iago* is jealous that some flaw will be found in him, to out him of his place, being conscious to himself of many Enormities: for though he walked by that rule, *if not cb stly*, yet *cautiously*, he managed his matters with all possible privacie; yet hee suspected that Goldsmiths would not receive that false Coine, wherewith common people are deluded, and the sharpe judgement of *Antonio* quickly discover that which was invisible to common eyes;

wherefore to mollifie him in his visitation, by two Fryers he sent him a *present* of rich plate to the value of five hundred *Crusadoes*. *Antonio* refuseth the acceptance, charging the Friers to return it, adding withall that if *Iago* had observed the vow of poverty, according to his order, hee could not have atchieved so great an estate.

Three daies after the Visitor comes to *Barc llona* on foot, unattended save with one servant alone; forth rode the *Abbot* to meet him on his *Mule*, and most of their Covent in like maner together with the *Officers* of their house, and all *Dependents* of the same, to the number of sixty persons; These expected to have met the Visitor in so solemn an Equipage, as had been observed by his *Predecessors*, and finding their expectation confused, *Iago* was much discompos'd thereat, and so disturbed in his mind, that he forgot that pre-

premeditated Oration which he had artificially pen'd for the Visitors entertainment.

Here *Iago* profered the *Visitor* the conveniencie of his *Mule*, which he refused, adding with a sterne countenance, that so much pomp and state became not men of his profession; conducted hee was into the Covent, where such a supper was provided for him, as had made provisions dear in the Town; The *Visitor* commanded the poor people to be called thither, on whom he bestowed all the *cheer*, betaking himself to some mean *Viands* which hee brought with him, and thereon took a sparing refection.

Next day the Court was kept, and severall misdemeanors were presented unto him. *Don Nicholayo* complained to the *Visitor* of the high offence of *Vejeto*. For although the power of the *Visitor* extended only to the Covent, yet lately he was im-

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poured with a Commiſſion from the *Conclave*, to take into conſideration all buſineſſe in the City, which any way related to the late wonder of the ſpirit in the wall, and to proceed againſt all perſons concerned therein, as he ſhould ſee cauſe for the ſame.

Vejeto is ſent for out of priſon, and his fault iuflamed to the height by the *Rhetorick* of a young *Advocate*, retained by *Don Nicholayo*, to ſet forth the hainouſneſſe of the offence; being demanded what hee could ſay for himſelf, he requeſted that one witneſſe might be produced, and her teſtimony ſolemnly taken, which ſeemed ſo equall a motion, that it could not any waies be denyed.

Preſently he bringeth forth *Sabina* by the hand (who ſtood by but diſguiſed and concealed) tendring her there to the *Viſitor*, to make a Narration of the whole ſtory.

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The *Viſitor* is for a while ſo taken up with wonder, that his ſoul was at leiſure to do nothing elſe but admire, to ſee one reported dead and carried away ſoul and body, alive and in good health: *Facundo* ſtanding by, requeſted the *Viſitor* to favour him, if hee tranſgreſſed the gravity of that Court, by beſtowing a ſalutation on his dear wife: being confident that the ſtrangeneſs of the accident would ſufficiently plead for his preſumption therein. Next day the *Viſitor* proceeds to cenſure. Firſt *Abbot Iago* was expell'd his Covent, and condemned to perpetuall impriſonment: it is thought it had coſt him his life, had not ſome reverence and reſpect to his order mitigated the cenſure. The *Novice* in the wall as yet was but a probationer, & not entred in the orders, was condemned to be publiquely whipt in the market place of *Barcellona*, being all the blood that was ſhed in this Co-

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micall ſtory. The *Exorciſt* pleaded his own innocence, as not privy to the cheat, and that he onely proceeded according to the rules of his owne Art, whoſe plea was accepted. *Don Nicholayo*, becauſe a perſon of great honor, highly deſcended and allied, was remitted by the *Viſitor* to the Kings diſpoſall, and ſent Priſoner to *Madrid*, where he was ordered to loſe his Office, and fined *ten thouſand Cruſadoes* to the *King*, and *five thouſand Cruſadoes* to *Facundo*; *Vejto* was deputed to ſucceed *Nicholayo* in the *Governors place of Barcellona*; *Facundo* ſomething to compenſate her patience, was promoted to be *Advocate Generall of Catalonia*. The *Nurſe* of *Sabina* privy to the plot pleaded the age of ſeventy, and under the protection thereof, at *Sabina's* humble intreaty was pardoned; *Infido* a cheating ſervant of *Vejeto*, who had oftentimes betrayed his Maſter ſecrets, was branded in the face with

with *F. S. falſe ſervant. Facundo* and *Sabina* lived many years together in Love and Credit, and whereas formerly ſhe was iſſueleſſe, made her husband afterward happy with a numerous poſterity.

FINIS.